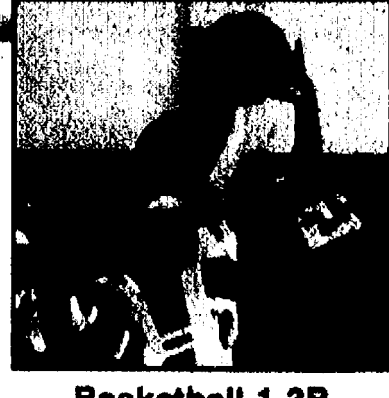




# CRAWFORD COUNTY AVALANCHE



Basketball 1-3B

## Snowmobile thefts prompt request for public's help

by Cheryll Ruley  
Staff Writer

A recent rash of snowmobile thefts in and around the village of Frederic have law enforcement asking the public to help identify the culprit or culprits responsible.

According to Crawford County Sheriff's Deputy Dean Goss, four snowmobiles were stolen between Friday and Sunday, January 23-25 in Frederic Township. None of the sled's owners left keys in the ignitions.

"Whoever is doing this is familiar with how snowmobiles work," said Goss, "and know how to hotwire."

Goss said a snowmobile stolen one morning, an Arctic Cat, was recovered several hours later in Otsego County, but it had been stripped.

Taken Friday was a Polaris model snowmobile and, on Saturday, at least two of the stolen machines were Arctic Cats.

"We really would like some help finding out who is responsible for the thefts," Goss said. "People have their weekends shot when they come up here and someone takes their machine."

Goss is urging anyone with information, or a tip about the thefts, to call the Sheriff's Office at (989) 348-4616 and talk to any officer there.

## Golnick named 2003 Athena Award winner



Photos courtesy of the Grayling Regional Chamber of Commerce

(Above) Lynn McConnell (far left) congratulates Linda Golnick, the 2003 Athena Award recipient at the January 21 Business After Hours held at the Ole Barn. Golnick, General Manager of the *Crawford County Avalanche*, was chosen for her leadership, support of women in business and community service over many years. Scheer Motors sponsors the award, represented (in line from left) at the ceremony this year by Kelly (Scheer) Fortino and Laurie (Scheer) Krey. Previous Athena winners were also on hand: Dr. Carolyn DiPonio, Mary Ann Ferrigan, Djane Tompkins-Burch, and Laurie Figley. (Left) Also, E-Z Built Homes received the 2003 Silver Lining Award for improving the old Grayling Reel property. Senior Vice President Keith Kenney (left) and Design & Technology Manager Justin Akers (right) received the company's award from Chamber of Commerce President Tim Zigla (center).

## County gives go ahead for appeals

► Approves pay increase for court employees, with two conditions

by Cheryll Ruley  
Staff Writer

On his own recommendation, appellate attorney Allan Falk has been given the go ahead by the Crawford County Board of Commissioners to file appeals as he deems necessary on rulings made by Judge Dennis Kolenda in the ongoing lawsuit between the Board and the 46th Circuit Trial Court.

The authorization is given to Falk through a resolution (04-121A) the Board passed January 21 at its regular monthly meeting. The resolution passed by a 5-0 vote, with two absences. Kalkaska County, one of two other court funding units, has agreed to the same authorization on January 13 by a 7-0 vote.

The lawsuit came about when the court disagreed with the level of funding and employee benefits appropriated by Crawford County back in September 2000. The county has argued its right to set budget levels that are reasonable, necessary and in the best interest of the community.

Continued on Page 7A  
See "COUNTY GIVES..."

## Sheriff warns of e-mail scam

by Cheryll Ruley  
Staff Writer

Even with the new federal law banning unwanted and unsolicited e-mail, inboxes still fill up with SPAM. Most are harmless in nature, bothersome at worst. But a few e-mails recently brought to the attention of Crawford County Sheriff Kirk Wakefield have raised serious concern.

A local business person received two e-mails within the last couple of days. One subject line reads: "Your account at U.S. Bank has been suspended;" the other reads: "Important News About Your Bank Account."

Both e-mails tell of dire consequences if the recipient does not follow directions to verify identity; that the recipient's account history will be sent to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in Washington, D.C. and may well be visited by "Local, State, or Federal Government or Homeland Security Officials."

The e-mail disguised as an official message from U.S. Bank states "other parties" appear to have accessed the account. "These parties have in the past been involved with money laundering, illegal drugs, terrorism and various Federal Title 18 violations."

The second e-mail denies the recipient insurance from the

FDIC or Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation "due to suspected violations of the Patriot Act."

Perhaps most alarming to Wakefield is that each e-mail provides a link to follow in order to provide personal information for verification of identity.

"People really need to be aware of these types of e-mails," said Wakefield. "There are so many of these e-mails coming across the web and if you don't have firewall protection on your computer or a junk mail filter, you may be the next one to receive one of these scam e-mails."

Wakefield is warning residents to pay close attention to requests for personal information because of the increasing problem of identity theft. He asks that everyone use common sense.

"The Feds are not going to send you an e-mail!" he said. "If the federal government wishes to contact you, and it is serious in nature, they are going to send you a letter by U.S. mail, probably certified... not to your e-mail inbox."

Some telling tales on each e-mail are the dates they were sent. One was sent on January 19 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day - a federal holiday; the other was

Continued on Page 7A  
See "SHERIFF WARNS..."

## Just doing their part for the war effort

by Cheryll Ruley  
Staff Writer

During World War II, those left "to keep the home fires burning" helped the war effort by recycling foil and cans to save metal for the building of planes, Jeeps and ships. Many women gave up their seamed hosiery and imitated them using eyebrow pencil in order to conserve on much needed nylon fiber for parachutes. Many Americans grew "victory gardens" to make sure everyone got fed.

Times may be different in 2004, but the sentiment is the same. We want nothing more than to help some way, somehow to make things easier for our troops, to help them succeed in their mission, to bring them home safely.

Recently, the word went out through e-mail messages from the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police that a campaign had begun to provide more protection for our troops.

The Southfield Fire Fighter's Association Local 1029 was requesting donations of old bullet resistant vests - no matter how old, no matter their condition. You see, one of their own is being shipped out for duty in

Iraq as a member of "F" Company, 425th Infantry of the Michigan National Guard. And as well-equipped as our armed forces are, these troops will not be as well-protected as the fire fighters would like.

With attacks on our troops by insurgents a continuing danger in Iraq, the fire fighters union would like to provide the old vests to serve as supplemental protection in door panels, on floor boards and in other areas of troop vehicles lacking complete armament.

Grayling City Police Chief Karl Schreiner was one of many to receive the e-mail. His department was ready to send its older vests to another program to be recycled, but has instead sent them on to Southfield for shipment to the troops, who are currently training at Ft. Bliss, Texas in preparation for deployment.

"I hope they get hundreds of these vests," said Schreiner. "Any stoppage of shrapnel or bullets will help keep those guys safer than if they are only protected by the vest they are wearing. Stuffing vests in the doors and in the floor boards will give more protection to their legs, feet, arms and



Photo by Cheryll Ruley

Grayling City Police Chief Karl Schreiner holds one of his department's new bullet resistant vests. Old vests were donated to help protect troops in Iraq.

hands." Schreiner gives a lot of credit for the campaign to his colleague, Deputy Chief Shawn Rowley of the Southfield Police Department. The two attended chiefs' training school together. But, Rowley passes on that praise to Southfield fire fighter Tim DelPiero and his union. "I

have to give him a lot of credit for taking this initiative. I just sent out the e-mails," Rowley said. DelPiero could not be reached for comment.

Local 1029 has agreed to pay for shipping all vests collected to the 425th in time for deployment or not far behind the troops.

## Crawford County Avalanche

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## Here we 'snow' again!



Photo by Cheryl Ruley

This is becoming a familiar sight these days in Grayling. City Department of Public Works employees scoop up the snow piles left after the streets are plowed following each heavy snowfall. The snow is hauled away to allow traffic to flow in the downtown area. As the paper was going to press on January 27, most of northern Lower Michigan was under a winter storm warning with up to 10 inches of new snow expected by Wednesday morning.

## Help Center's Christmas project bigger than ever

► More than 1,700 toys collected locally by Toys for Tots in 2003

by Cheryl Ruley  
Staff Writer

It is a bittersweet report, that of the success of the local food pantry's 2003 Christmas project. Bitter because the need just seems to keep growing; sweet

because the community came through... again.

"It takes a 'village' like ours to give us enough love and caring to complete a big project like ours," said Gerry Schroeder, Director of the Crawford County Community Christian Help Center.

Over 1,700 toys were collected through the local Toys for Tots program, and 800 Crawford County children benefited. Toys for Tots Coordinator Marianne Gosnell, each year, works directly with Schroeder to combine services for children, families, adults and senior citizens that assure no one goes without a gift and a holiday meal at Christmas time.

Gosnell said her work is made very easy by the generosity of people and businesses in the community and the thankfulness of those on the receiving end.

"They just want a nice Christmas for their kids," she said. "For many parents, it is very difficult to ask for help."

The Help Center, alone, served 287 families, including senior citizens. About 250 families were served by the Toys for Tots program, some of which were also served by the Help Center food voucher program.

During the week of toy and holiday food distribution at the Help Center, six volunteers helped each day.

For the seniors, the Help Center provided Christmas dinner, gifts and "some goodies," Schroeder said. The program has been successful in bringing smiles to faces, curbing loneliness during the holidays, and helping seniors on very tight budgets.

"There were many cash donations as well as food donations,"

said Schroeder. "The community of Grayling, again this year, gave us support in every way. So, we did very well. And will continue to do so as long as we are needed."

Now more than a month since Christmas, the Help Center continues to serve those in need, offering groceries and personal items to help families and individuals make it through tough times. A food drive is currently being held.

Pancake mix; canned soup; bar soap, shampoo and large tubes of toothpaste are in the shortest supply and highest demand at the Help Center.

Anyone who would like to make a donation, may visit the Help Center on Huron Street in Grayling during regular business hours, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, or call Schroeder at 348-6046.

## Avalanche welcomes new Capital News reporter

Michigan State University (MSU) journalism senior, Kevin Hardy, has been assigned to the Crawford County *Avalanche* to help cover happenings in the state capital affecting the Crawford County area.

During his young career, Hardy has already served as the 2003 Editor in Chief of MSU's award-winning student newspaper, *The State News*, and worked at the *Detroit Free Press*, *Detroit News*, *Cincinnati Enquirer*, *Lansing State Journal* and *Jackson Citizen Patriot*.

Hardy plans on working in the newspaper and magazine business for the remainder of his career.

"I have aspirations to work in

political, local government, entertainment, baseball and editorial writing before pursuing the role of a managing or executive editor," Hardy said.

Besides newswriting, Hardy said he writes screen plays and has a specialty in film studies. His personal interests include a great love of baseball and the movies.

The 23 year-old is a native of Grand Rapids, but will join his fiancée in Detroit following his



Kevin Hardy

graduation this year. The couple is planning a September wedding.

"We welcome Kevin's work here at the *Avalanche*," said Linda Golnick, General Manager. "He will be able to cover important issues in Lansing we are unable to pursue with our small staff of writers."

"It has always been a pleasure to work with the young journalism students and help them establish themselves in the newspaper world," said Cheryl Ruley, who works directly with the Capital News Service (CNS) student journalists.

"Kevin is well on his way in that world and he will be a great asset to us."

## Democrats: deadline nears for caucus applications

Democrats who wish to vote by mail or the Internet in the upcoming Michigan Democratic Presidential nominating caucus

have until January 31 to apply for a ballot.

To vote by mail or the Internet, voters must be currently registered in Michigan and appearing on the Secretary of State's Qualified Voter File. Those not currently a registered voter in Michigan, must participate in person February 7.

Applications are available from the Michigan Democratic Party (MDP) on its website: [www.mi-democrats.com](http://www.mi-democrats.com), as well as by request and from local party organizations.

In Crawford County, ballot applications are available at the Law Office of Monte Burmeister on Michigan Avenue in Grayling. Burmeister currently serves as the local party's chairman.

To obtain an application by mail, send your request to MDP, 606 Townsend, Lansing, MI

48933. Voters may also phone in a request by calling (517) 371-5410 or by fax at (517) 371-2056.

Internet and by mail ballot applications must be returned to the MDP by 6 p.m. on Saturday, January 31. Those submitted after the deadline will not be granted regardless of their postmark or mailing date.

The caucuses will be open on Saturday, February 7, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., including in Crawford County at the county building, 200 West Michigan Avenue in Grayling. Voters can vote anytime during those hours and people in line at 4 p.m. Eastern Standard Time will be permitted to vote.

Online voting will also conclude at 4 p.m. on February 7.

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| FULL BLANKET \$270           | FULL BLANKET \$290      |
| REG. SET \$900               | REG. SET \$900          |
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| <b>Luxury Comfort</b>        | <b>Elegance Comfort</b> |
| <b>\$798</b>                 | <b>\$998</b>            |
| Queen Set                    | Queen Set               |
| BOYNTON                      | CASILLATION             |
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# Crawford schools receive report cards

by Susan Warrington  
Staff Writer

Although January 30 is the day educators and the public will learn the grades earned by their local school districts, broken down by building, Crawford AuSable School District (CASD) Superintendent Milli Haug said they are sure the preliminary grades they have received will be the correct ones.

Each district received their grades a few weeks ago and was given time to contest any grades before the final grades were released.

Each building is graded on how successfully they met the school performance indicators (engagement of students in the learning process, instructional quality improvement and learning opportunities), student achievement (how well a school is doing in educating all students based on MEAP results), and whether the achievement level is improving.

The three areas are equally weighted and each area receives an A, B, C, D, or F. These grades are averaged and a composite score is then given to each school. Each building in the CASD received a composite grade of C, which means they are all accredited.

Haug said it has been an interesting process.

Since it is the first time this grading procedure has been done, many schools are unhappy with their grades. Haug was not ecstatic about the grades but said it gave the administration and staff a baseline and they

will work to improve the grades at every level.

She added, one of the reasons the grade for the high school is a C is that only 86 percent of the students in the high school took the MEAP test. Any percentage less than 95 resulted in a grade of F. She said that in the future at least 95 percent of all students in each building will be taking the MEAP test.

Results are sorted by several categories, one of which is "economically disadvantaged." If any category fails to make adequate yearly progress on the MEAP tests, it lowers the grade of the building. At the high school this particular category of students failed to make adequate yearly progress in language arts, although they were successful in math.

One indicator of success with which Haug was particularly pleased was the increase in graduation rate over the last few years. She said the state has an average of 80 percent graduation, while Grayling High School is now at 84.5 percent.

Haug said the grades and accompanying explanations agree with the aims of the district's dynamic plan, now in its second year.

The plan, developed by the administration and staff, emphasizes across the board improvements in reading and math skills through a combination of strategies. She said the staff knows what needs to be done and they are working hard to improve the educational opportunities for all of their students. She added the grades the

## Michigan's school accreditation system is based on the following standards:

All Michigan elementary and middle school children will read independently and use math to solve problems at grade level.

All Michigan students will experience a year of academic growth for a year of instruction.

All Michigan high school students, in addition to demonstrating high academic achievement, will have an individual educational plan leading them to being prepared for success.

### Indicators of Engagement include the following:

Schools will be recognized for systems that let them know whether each student has attained critical skills.

Recognition will be given to programs that have a focus on continuous improvement.

Schools will measure their work toward curriculum alignment in the school and across the district.

### Indicators of Instructional Quality include the following:

Teacher quality indicators will measure both the preparation of teachers for their assignment and professional development.

Schools receive credit for early childhood programs available for at-risk students in the district.

Schools are given credit for providing all children with a foundation in the arts; for offering ongoing education in music, drama, dance and the visual arts.

Schools will be given credit for participation in advanced coursework such as dual enrollment and advanced placement classes.

### Indicators of Learning opportunities include:

Reaching out to involve every family in a significant and meaningful way.

Improving student attendance and lowering the dropout rate.

The development and use of individual four-year education and employment plan for each student to help guide his or her choices will be recognized.

School facilities will be inventoried to see if they pose barriers to learning and embracing the information age.

district just received are simply another way to help the staff assess their programs.

Haug said she would welcome calls regarding the grades and accompanying report. It is not known at this time whether

the grades will be listed on the Michigan Department of Education website

(www.michigan.gov/mde), but anyone interested in checking should do so beginning January 30 when the grades are posted.

## Third man sentenced, brother set for trial

by Cheryl Ruley  
Staff Writer

The third of four suspects arrested last summer on drug charges and taking police on a short chase has been sentenced.

Joe Ronnie Jacobs, the driver in the August 5, 2003 incident, was sentenced January 8 by 46th Circuit Court Judge Dennis F. Murphy to 24 to 48 months in prison on the charge of felony fleeing and eluding police 4th degree.

He was also ordered to pay \$60 to the Crime Victim Rights Fund and a \$60 state minimum court cost fine. An additional charge of misdemeanor possession of marijuana was dropped in exchange for his guilty plea on

December 4, 2003.

Joe Jacobs' past convictions on felony prescription drug and unarmed robbery charges played an important role in Murphy's sentencing him to the maximum charge under the state's Habitual Offender law. He received credit for 157 days served in the Crawford County Jail.

Joe's brother, Raymond Theopolis Jacobs, remains in jail awaiting trial on the charge of misdemeanor possession of marijuana. His previous convictions include three for possession of cocaine, two for home invasion, and probation violations.

As a Habitual Offender, Raymond Jacobs faces up to 15 years in prison if found guilty.

His trial is scheduled to begin February 25.

The two other suspects in the incident, Woodrow Anthony Brand and Dennis James Cavanaugh, pleaded guilty and were sentenced late last year on drug possession charges.

Less than a month after his release from jail, Cavanaugh was arrested in Grayling for violating his probation by never reporting to his probation officer and failing to provide his address. He was arraigned January 9, then sentenced January 12 to 45 days in jail and unsuccessfully discharged from probation.

Besides his Crawford County conviction of misdemeanor possession of marijuana,

Cavanaugh's previous convictions include felony attempt to possess cocaine and impaired driving.

## Murder suspect's hearing adjourned

by Cheryl Ruley  
Staff Writer

The preliminary examination hearing of murder suspect Michael Patrick Bergan, originally scheduled for January 27, has been adjourned. No new date has been scheduled for the hearing.

Bergan, age 42, was arraigned January 13 on a charge of open murder in the May 2001 shooting death of 21 year-old Shane Piehl.

In a preliminary examination hearing, the prosecution must present the court with sufficient cause why the defendant should be bound over for trial in Circuit

Court.

According to an 87th District Court Clerk, Judge John G. Hunter has recused himself from hearing the case and Bergan's court appointed attorney from the law firm of Carey and Jaskowski, PLLC, has removed himself from representation.

## Frederic man found guilty on three assault charges

by Cheryl Ruley  
Staff Writer

A jury decided the fate of a Frederic Township man, following a two-day trial and about two years of disharmony on Frederic Street.

Michael Joseph Nagy, age 50, was found guilty on January 21 on three counts of assault with a weapon stemming from an August 8, 2002 incident where he threatened to shoot three of his neighbors following a long-time dispute over the access rights of an alley near Lake and

Center Streets.

In the weeks before his arrest, Nagy's neighbors reported to law enforcement his tactics while "protecting" the alley adjacent to his property on many occasions, including incidents of ax-wielding and verbal abuse.

Crawford County Sheriff Kirk Wakefield said his officers had been dealing with Nagy for years, in most cases on alcohol-related charges, such as drunk and disorderly, where his breath tests registered nearly three times the legal limit. The day he

was arrested, test results registered over the legal limit of .08 at .124.

Nagy is currently free on a personal recognizance bond of \$10,000 while awaiting sentencing on March 8 before Chief Judge Alton T. Davis in 46th Circuit Trial Court. During the time before sentencing, Nagy has been ordered not to leave his home except to pick up prescriptions and food.

Nagy faces up to four years in prison and/or a \$2,000 fine for each assault charge.

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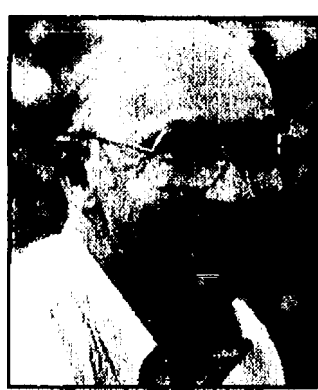
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# ISSUES AND OPINIONS



## ALMANACK

by Richard Milliman

# How we pick presidents needs major fix

**IT'S DOWNRIGHT** silly. The way America's two major political parties decide on their candidates for president every four years makes no sense at all.

Look at what's been going on in our political world for more than a year now, and just coming to a crux at this point.

In the United States, almost anyone can run for president. It's the apex of a career in public service, and, like this year, many honorable and capable men and women chose to pursue the opportunity.

Campaigning begins about two years before the election. To run a credible campaign for president requires millions of dollars, plus significant personal dedication.

A presidential campaign is the survival of the fittest, and that means personally, as well as financially and politically.

It's treated as a horse race, and pundits and pollsters enthusiastically and at

great length handicap the candidates and their campaigns.... who's ahead, who's gaining, who's losing ground.

For months and months, hardly anyone pays close attention, except the candidates, the pundits and the pollsters.

**THEN FOR SOME** reason, the system permits a relative handful of voters in two small, unrepresentative states to shape the nomination process for president.

We have bestowed upon the Iowa caucuses and the New Hampshire primary a significance all out of proportion to reality. Neither state reflects the makeup of the country, nor the problems that concern most of America.

How the candidates fare in these two states often determines how much money they can raise, which determines how effectively and for how long they can conduct their campaigns.

U.S. Rep. Dick Gephardt of Missouri finished fourth and dropped out after the

Iowa caucuses. He won some delegates, but dismissed his own chances of winning the nomination, so he quit.

That's too bad. Mr. Gephardt has built an impressive lifetime record in public office. He deserved a better look from around the country, but one of the rules of today's nominating game required him to do better than fourth in Iowa. Why?

Other candidates will drop by the wayside, too, during this early nominating process, without benefit of a nationwide hearing.

**COMBINATIONS OF** caucuses and primaries in a dozen or so mostly small states will follow New Hampshire in close succession, including party caucuses in Michigan on Saturday, February 7. These will provide a somewhat more national tone to the nomination process, but not broad enough for my book.

Some method should be established so voters around the nation -- instead of just

those in the early caucus and primary states -- can help decide which candidates will run for president.

Delegates to the two parties' national conventions next July and August actually will nominate candidates for president and vice president. Various states' caucuses, primaries and state conventions will select those summer delegates, who make the final choices.

**PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARIES** first appeared in 1916, as part of the progressive party reform movement of those days. Presidential primaries were designed in part to move the selection process out of the legendary smoke filled rooms and into the hands of the people.

New Hampshire has conducted primaries since 1920. Democratic party rules forbid any state from getting ahead of New Hampshire in the primary or caucus process.

Regional primaries have been pro-

posed as a way to spread the nomination process around the country. States would be grouped in geographic regions for primaries, which would be rotated around the country every four years, so no region would be first all the time.

Regional primaries may not be the answer, but they make more sense than the marathon, money-generated, polling dominated, media crazed way we do it now.

If every person's vote is equally important, why should someone in Iowa or New Hampshire have such an important voice, and voters in non-primary states or late voting primaries be denied influence?

The system is broken. It should be fixed.

Maybe we should give those smoke filled rooms another chance.

*Richard Milliman is a veteran newspaperman, and a contributing columnist to several Michigan newspapers.*

# EDITOR

## District's handling of threats bothers some students

To the editor,

My name is Whitney Keir. I am a 15-year old freshman at Grayling High School. Throughout this past calendar year, we have had three bomb threats.

Now, I agree this is childish and getting old, but that is no reason to treat the whole student body like criminals when only one of us is responsible for it.

Following the past three bomb threats, we have had to stand outside in the winter weather for up to 30 minutes. After standing outside in line, they let us in 10 people at a time. When we were inside, the police and staff searched all of our personal items, then sent us all into the gymnasium.

Each time, we had to sit in the gym for 30 minutes to an hour. It got even more extreme on January 15 when we had to sign in and out of the classroom, even the bathroom. The whole school was in complete lock down.

I am not blaming the school system, staff, or the law enforcement. I support the searches and know they are necessary. I also really appreciate everything they do to keep us safe. However, there are many more entrances that can be utilized to make searches go quicker, and yelling at us doesn't help

anything.

We understand that it was one of our peers and that we can help prevent it, but most of us, if not all of us, have no clue who was responsible. If you would like us to do something about it, let us know who did it! We think it is just as ignorant and immature as the rest, but not telling us anything and lying to us isn't going to help.

I think I speak for all the students at Grayling High School when I say, "stop treating us all like criminals and start being honest!"

Whitney Keir  
Grayling

*Editor's note: Superintendent Milli Haug confirmed bomb threats were made at Grayling High School in May 2003, December 2003 and on January 15, 2004. Students were invited to stay warm by waiting on buses before entering the school in December and January. A bomb threat was also made at Grayling Middle School on January 12. Students were sent home early that day.*

*Since Haug's leadership began in the district, two people have been convicted and served time for making threats, another is currently going through the court process.*

## Thumbs up to the Road Commission

To the editor,

I would like to take a moment to point out some people who really do a good job.

The men and women of the Crawford County Road Commission, in my opinion, do a good job (compared to surrounding counties) of maintaining all of the county roadways.

I do not think most of us in Crawford County realize the quick and efficient service provided during the winter months. I can not think of one week yet this winter when my street has not been plowed fol-

lowing any snow that has fallen.

My wife and I drove to Traverse City on Saturday, and it was really shocking the difference in road conditions. In our county, both lanes were almost free of any snow, the lanes were wet and salted for safe driving, which made me worry less about traction or stopping.

When we hit both Kalkaska and Grand Traverse Counties, there was no comparison of the road conditions; the shoulders had not been plowed in quite a while. One lane in each direc-

tion was somewhat plowed, there were patches of snow, or ice sporadically covering the travel lane.

A few years ago, I used to travel to Gaylord every day for work and once you hit Otsego County there was only one lane maintained on the freeway.

So, just a reminder next time you see a Crawford County Road Commission vehicle in your way, or up ahead of you, instead of cursing them or getting upset for the travel delay, remember these ladies and gentlemen are making sure all the residents of Crawford County

are getting to their destination safely.

Take a moment and think about all the hard work, long hours, and tireless effort these people are putting in every day to make sure we are all a little safer out on the roadways.

To the ladies and gentlemen of the Crawford County Road Commission, there are people out there who notice all your good work, so please continue to take pride in your work.

Derek Bastien  
Grayling

## Library Board should have gone to mediation

To the editor,

It was with deep regret that I have read the last two weeks' accounts of the action by the Crawford County Library Board, yet how appreciative my thoughts concerning the letter written by Edward Elsnier.

It speaks of a young man who has his act together, who is commenting as a Christian gentleman and is confident of his future, wherever that may be.

It is simply amazing that a group of reasonable adults -- the members of the Library Board -- could not find enough generosity in their

hearts to accept the offer of a mediator and be willing to listen. It is a sad day when a few individuals assume they are endowed with all the powers of always being right and are beyond reproach.

We have a beautiful new building and the community has given generously to offer the services and special programs that have been made available. We would do well in Grayling and surroundings to do a few things that are positive and done without criticism and malice.

Hertha L. Laupmanis  
Grayling

## Let's set an example -- participate in caucus

To the editor,

As residents of Crawford County and the State of Michigan, we find ourselves, fortunately, in the midst of a unique historic opportunity. On February 7, 2004 Michigan will conduct its Caucus for the Democratic Candidate for the United States Presidency.

In the past, Michigan political involvement in the nomination process, while important, was not as prominent because it always fell significantly after the front runner had emerged.

However, after a long fought concerted effort, Michigan now has a caucus early in the process. Accordingly, as one of the larger industrial states, we have an opportunity to shape the future in a way not previously allowed.

Whether you agree or disagree with our foreign policy in Iraq, one thing we all know is that one of the things we do, and that we ask our soldiers to do, is set an example.

We are trying in Iraq, and have tried in other countries, to instill

democratic governments with democratic ideals. We try to give the Iraqis and others examples of how our democracy works. When one considers the low percentage of popular turnout at elections, it is obvious there is a significant segment of our society who should feel ashamed of themselves for not exercising their special right to vote.

Admittedly, the Democratic Caucus is not for everyone. But, if you have an interest in any of the Democratic Presidential Nominees, then I urge you to vote at the caucus. You do not need to be a registered Democrat to participate.

So, let's set an example and exercise our right to vote!

The caucus is Saturday, February 7, 2004, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Crawford County Courthouse/County Building.

Monte J. Burmeister  
Chairperson  
Crawford County Democrats  
Grayling

### CRAWFORD COUNTY AVALANCHE

P.O. Box 490, Grayling, MI 49738 • (517) 448-0811 • FAX 517-448-6806

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### AVALANCHE DEADLINES

**Community Briefs** items submitted to the *Crawford County Avalanche* must be turned in to the office by Monday noon, for consideration in that week's issue. Use of the Brief column is on a first come, first served basis.

**Photographs** must be turned in to the office by noon on Friday for consideration in the next issue.

**News items and letters** should be submitted on 8 1/2-x-11 inch paper, typed, and double-spaced. Handwritten items must also have ample space between each line; on lined paper use every other line.

**Classified ads** by the word must be turned in by Tuesday noon and have to be paid for in advance or they will not be published.

**Classified display ads** must be turned in by Monday noon.

**Full page, half page, or color display ads** must be turned in by Thursday at 5 p.m.

**The deadline for all display ads smaller than a half page is Friday at 5 p.m.**

### DISCLAIMER

The opinions expressed in the letters and columns on this page are solely those of the writer, and do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of The Crawford County Avalanche.



# BRIEFS

## Boy Scouts to host spaghetti dinner

Grayling Boy Scout Troop 995 will host a spaghetti dinner on Friday, February 13, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., at the Grayling Eagles Hall. Ticket prices to be announced.

## Retired federal employees to meet

The National Association of Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) Chapter 2305, will meet Thursday, February 5 at Michelson Memorial United Methodist Church on Michigan Avenue in Grayling. Lunch will be available at the church beginning at 11 a.m. The NARFE business meeting will begin at about 12:15 p.m. NARFE is an organization dedicated to protecting the earned retirement benefits of federal employees, retirees, and their survivors. Its mission is to represent the long-term interests of employees, annuitants, and their families. Membership is open to civilians in any agency of the federal or Washington, D.C. governments eligible for federal retirement plan, including: current employees and retirees, spouses and survivors. For more information about this meeting, call Rudy Martinez at (989) 348-5326.

## Free kids' hearing/vision tests offered

The Crawford County Health Department will offer free hearing and vision screenings to kids ages three to 18 years of age on Friday, January 30 at the Grayling Head Start building on Old US-27 North in Grayling. Call the Health Department for an appointment at 348-7800.

## Church plans all-you-can-eat lunch

Michelson Memorial United Methodist Church, located at 400 East Michigan Avenue in Grayling, invites everyone to a luncheon of hot and/or cold foods on Thursday, February 5, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Make your own sandwich, etc. Salad and dessert are included. Take-outs available. Cost is \$5 per person.

## Arts & Flowers Card still available

The deadline to purchase a Grayling Promotional Association Arts and Flowers Card has been extended through the month of February. For a \$50 donation to the GPA Cultural Events Series, receive a fresh floral bouquet each of three months -- February, March and April -- including a vase with the first bouquet, and entry into a contest to receive season tickets for two to the 2004-05 series, a pair of season tickets to the 2004-05 Travel and Adventure Series, or a \$50 gift certificate from Flowers by Josie. Cards may be purchased from any GPA member or at Flowers by Josie, or by mail: make check or money order payable to GPA, and mail to GPA, P.O. Box 71, Grayling MI 49738. A portion of the purchase price is tax deductible. Credit cards are also accepted.

## Historical Society meets February 3

The Board of Directors of the Crawford County Historical Society will hold its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 3, at 7 p.m., in the meeting room of the Devereaux Memorial Crawford County Library, 201 Plum Street in Grayling. Ideas of members are needed for smooth operation of the Historic Museum. All members and prospective members are encouraged to attend. Meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month.

## Rep. Gillard to hold office hours

State Representative Matt Gillard will hold office hours in the Health Department Conference Room at the Montmorency County Courthouse, 12265 M-32 in Atlanta, on Friday, January 30, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Area residents are encouraged to discuss questions and concerns they may have about state government with Rep. Gillard during these informal office hours. For more information, call toll-free, 1-866-MATT-106.

## NASCAR snowmobile racing coming to Upper Peninsula

It is that time of year for all you NASCAR race fans to bundle up in your long johns and make your way to Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan for the 36th annual Sault International 500 on February 7.

Otherwise known as the I-500, this race has all the thrills of car racing that NASCAR junkies love, but with snowmobiles. The machines will race at speeds over 90 miles per hour.

Racers come from Michigan, Minnesota, Alaska, Canada, Texas, Ohio and Iowa. Time trials start February 2. According to last year's records, there were 80 drivers who showed up for the time trials and only 38 were eligible for racing.

Last year's winner was Corey Davidson of Holt, Minnesota, driving his company sponsored Polaris.

"It's going to be an excellent race this year," said Tom Beaudry, chairman of the I-500. He said in its 36 years, the race has brought in much support from not only the city and surrounding communities, but from all over North America.

"This is a tribute to all of those who have participated in past races," said Beaudry.

Linda Hoath, Executive Director of the Sault Ste. Marie Convention and Visitors Bureau, emphasized how much volunteer

time goes into the race.

"The event is 100 percent volunteer," she said. "Each member of the I-500 committee has his or her own job, and on the side work overtime to make this race a great event."

The event, which has put Sault Ste. Marie on the map, attracts thousands of spectators who willingly sit outside in temperatures that range from below zero to single digits. There will be a food tent, beverage tent and many vendors who tough it out to sell I-500 souvenirs.

For information on race locations and times, call the Sault Convention and Visitors Bureau at 1-800-MISAULT, e-mail: info@saultstemarkie.com., or log on to: www.saultstemarkie.com.

## GMS revs up for MEAP



Photo courtesy of Grayling Middle School

This is just one of many posters created by Grayling Middle School art instructor Chris Burrell to encourage students to do their best on the MEAP tests.

From January 26 to February 13, Grayling Middle School (GMS) students will be completing the state MEAP tests. To encourage students to do their very best on the tests, GMS art instructor Chris Burrell created motivational posters and hung them all around the school.

Seventh grade students will be taking an English Language Arts test February 3-4. Eighth grade

students are scheduled to take the MEAP Social Studies test January 27-28, the Math test February 3-5, and the Science test February 10-11.

Administrators, teachers and staff of GMS encourage all students to be in school on test days and, as always, get a good night's sleep the night before and have a healthy breakfast before heading out to school.

## The Vogues sure to swoon your sweetheart Feb. 14

Vocal group, "The Vogues," will be creating a special Valentine's evening at Kirtland Center for the Performing Arts (KCPA) on Saturday, February 14 at 8 p.m.

Anyone looking for a special way to spend Valentine's Day with a sweetheart may wish to attend the concert. This internationally famous group had such top 20 hits as "Turn Around and Look at Me," "You're the One," "Five O'Clock World," "Magic Town," "My Special Angel," "Till, No Not Much," and "Women Helping Man."

The Vogues created a fresh, original blend of harmony and it left an indelible mark on the music world. The group has been honored in most national and international polls as one of the best vocal groups on the scene.

Growing up in western Pennsylvania, group members were well received locally, but it took one of their early recordings, "You're the One," to thrust them into national acclaim. There followed a series of million-selling records and albums.

The Vogues are an electrifying group and project this sensation to their concert, night club and television audiences, said Gary Carton, Director of the KCPA.

"Rock and Roll gave the group their beginning, pop, country and current sounds have found their way into The Vogues repertoire," Carton explained. "The word vogue means: the mode or fashion prevalent at any particular time; generally favored or accepted. They truly fulfill the

promise of their name."

Spend a romantic evening with The Vogues on February 14 at the Performing Arts Center on the campus of Kirtland Community College.

Tickets are priced at \$20, \$18 and \$16 each.

For ticket reservations, call the Kirtland Ticket Office at (989) 275-6777 or order tickets on-line at www.kirtland.edu/kepa.

## Immediate openings for all ages



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I am honored in receiving the  
2003 Athena Award.

It is a privilege to join the ranks with previous Athena Award winners.

I would like to thank:

The Grayling Regional Chamber of Commerce  
and Scheer Motors

for sponsoring the Athena Award  
Host, Kiwanis Club of Grayling and  
Co-host, the Ole Barn for sponsoring a great evening.

Thank you to my family, friends, co-workers,  
businesses and organizations for all your support  
and dedication.

Also a special thank you to the late Bill Joseph,  
owner of the Grayling Mercantile, for  
introducing me to the business community and  
for sharing his business knowledge and love for  
the Grayling area. You will never be forgotten.

Sincerely,  
2003 Athena Award Winner  
Linda Golnick

## Warm Up Inside With These January Specials!

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# The Bible Speaks

## God Bless You!

Recently we were in a restaurant and noticed that the waitress had written "God Bless You" as she signed her name on our receipt. This impressed me that she was willing to risk her job to share her faith in God. I made a point before leaving of personally thanking her for publicly sharing her faith. She responded kindly and meekly by saying that it was simply what her mother had taught her at home. Since she was such a young girl, it suddenly renewed my faith in the future hope for America. She was an excellent representative of religious conviction and courage in the coming generation.

The world thinks nothing of someone using God's name to damn someone else. In fact, they often think of such language as a person willing to personally expressing their personal independence and strength. In fact, using God's name in vain is respected by many secularists. Anything that puts God's name down is acceptable. For example, some feel it is a right to put a cross in urine and display it publicly as art and even justify demanding taxpayers pay for it. They even defend it as their first amendment right. But the same people are offended when God, name is honored in public. They consider such honorable usage a violation of the separation of church and state. These same people protest the use of the term "under God" in the pledge of allegiance to the flag. They are offended by the term "In God We Trust"

on our money.

It is understandable to be offended when someone uses God's name to damn you, thereby asking God to cause you harm. But how could anyone be offended by someone using God's name to bless him or her that is to cause them good? So I asked the young girl if anyone was ever offended by her blessing? She said there were a few who said they were offended by her expressing her desire for God to bless them.

This is illogical to me. Why would anyone not want God to bless him or her? Why would anyone not want God to bless America? It can only be explained by assuming they don't believe in God. But even if they don't believe in God, why offend someone who does? And why be offended by a genuine offer of blessing or goodness toward others?

Most of us want all the blessings God is willing to give us. Most of all we are grateful for God's eternal blessing of salvation through our faith in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ as our substitute, for our salvation. God's eternal salvation is the greatest blessing any of us have received.

No people in the world have been blessed more than the people of the United States of America. Then why not give God the glory instead of criticizing Him, and rejecting Him? This reminds us that liberalism in all forms is illogical and unreasonable. The testimony of this young girl should inspire you

as it inspired me to be more faithful in our daily witness. So what if the world criticizes us. They hated, persecuted, and crucified our Lord Jesus Christ. Are we better than Him? We leave this blessing with you to meditate upon and pray you will graciously accept it. "The LORD bless thee, and keep thee: 25The LORD make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: 26The LORD lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace." (Numbers 6:24-26) May God bless you! Pastor "B" Please pray for God's blessings upon the ministry of this column and our church Website at <http://www.i2k.net/~cba>. We at Calvary Baptist Church invite you to learn more from the Bible about Jesus Christ. Join us in a verse by verse study of the gospel of John each Sunday.

"The Bible Speaks" is a paid advertisement and does not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the Crawford County Avalanche.

**FREE BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE COURSES**  
Send name, address, and age to  
**Calvary Baptist Church**  
6504 West M-72, Grayling, MI 49738  
Call (989) 348-8356 or 348-9220

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209 First St., Suite 103 • Gaylord  
(989) 732-7001  
April through October  
2nd & 4th Wednesday 7 pm  
Sunday School 10:30 am

**Michigan Memorial United Methodist Church**  
Pastor Jeffrey Jagers  
400 Michigan Ave. • 348-2974  
Website: [www.mmu-umc.org](http://www.mmu-umc.org)  
Barrier Free  
Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11 am  
Sunday School Sept. - May  
Children's Sunday School 11 am  
(Outside Available during 11:00 service)  
Bible Study (Wed) 10:30 am

**Seventh Day Adventist**  
Pastor Jeff Arthur  
Phone 348-275-1061  
Services held Saturday  
Camp 45 min off M-72 East  
(at building on right inside camp entrance)  
Sunday Church Service 9:30 am  
Sunday Sabbath School 10:30 am  
Tuesday Prayer Meeting 7 pm

**Lovell Chapel**  
Pastor Rev. Gary Hopp  
Sunday School 10 am  
Church Service 11 am  
Prayer Meeting (Wed) 7 pm

**Free Methodist**  
Joseph Carpenter - Pastor  
Daniel Beckmann - Associate Pastor  
6552 (M-72 W) • 348-9093  
or 348-5562  
Bible Service 8:30 am  
Sunday School 10 am  
Church Service 11 am  
Prayer Meeting (Wednesday) 7 pm

**Reema Lavery United Church of Christ**  
474 West Park Road, Lathrop  
Sunday School 11 am  
Church Service 9:30 am

**Bethlehem Baptist**  
Pastor Ernie Wagner 348-1411  
1442 Barwood, East Rd. (1/4 mile west of I-75)  
Sunday School 9:45 am  
Church Service 11 am  
Prayer Meeting 7 pm

**Grayling Assembly of God**  
Pastor Gary Wahlen  
701 S. I-75 Business Loop  
Church 348-8825  
Sunday School 9:30 am  
Sunday Worship 10:30 am  
Church Service 11 am  
Prayer Meeting (Wednesday) 7 pm

**The Church of Christ**  
2001 1st St. • Grayling  
Sunday School 10 am

**United Methodist Church**  
2001 1st St. • Grayling  
Sunday School 10 am

**Listening & Learning**  
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints  
President David Page  
600 North Elm Street, Gaylord  
Sacrament Sunday School 10 am  
Primary 11 am  
Preshood 12 noon  
Relief Society 12 noon

**Burning Bush Tabernacle**  
Pastor Patricia Perre 348-1278  
501 B. Michigan Ave., Grayling  
Sunday School 10 am  
Sunday Service & Children's Church 11 am  
Sunday Evening Service 7 pm  
Monday Prayer Meeting 7 pm  
Wednesday Bible Study 7 pm

**St. John Lutheran (ELCA)**  
710 Spruce Street  
348-5224  
Sunday School 9:15 am  
Sunday Worship 10:30 am

**Community of Christ**  
Pastor Carol Stephen  
North Down River Rd. at  
1000 Glen Rd. • P.O. Box 1188  
Church School 9:45 am  
Prayer Meeting 11 am  
Midweek Service Prayer 7 pm

**St. Mary's Roman Catholic Community**  
Robert W. Nalley, J.V. Pastor  
700-708 Peninsula 348-7657  
Sabbath Eucharist 8 pm  
Sunday Mass 8:00 am  
Family Mass 10:00 am  
Scripture Study (Sun) 9:15 am  
Daily Masses 7:30 am  
Wednesday & Friday 8:30 am

**St. Francis Episcopal**  
Reverend Elizabeth Smith  
M-72 West • Office 348-5430  
Morning Prayer 7:30 am  
Sunday Eucharist 8:30 & 10:30 am  
Sunday Bible Study 9:30 am

**Reverend Dr. J. J. Kasper**  
Pastor Rev. Dr. J. J. Kasper  
Grayling Drive, Grayling, MI  
Sunday School 10 am  
Church Service 11 am  
Prayer Meeting 7 pm

**Calvary Baptist Church**  
Dr. Robert Barnett, Pastor  
M-72 West  
Sunday School 9:45 am  
Morning Worship 10:30 am  
Sunday Evening 6 pm  
Wednesday 7 pm  
Prayer & Awana Club (Wed) 7 pm

**Church of Christ**  
Scott Hoffer, Pastor  
Old US-27 at Skyline Rd. • 275-8613 •  
In Search of the Lord's Way  
Sunday Mornings on  
TV 29 & 8 7:30 am  
Sunday Classes 10 am  
Sunday Worship 11 am  
Sunday Evening 6 pm  
1st Sunday Evening of every month there is no service.  
Mid-Week Bible Study (Wed) 7 pm

**Abundant Life Tabernacle**  
Pastor Lyle Stader  
211 Shellenbarger St. • 348-5325  
Sunday School 10 am  
Sunday Worship 11 am & 6:00 pm  
Wednesday Evening 7 pm

**Grayling Baptist Church**  
Affiliated with S.B.C.  
Pastor Terry Colby  
705 Madison St. • Grayling • 348-2557  
Sunday School 9:45 am  
Morning Worship 11 am & 6 pm  
Evening Service 6 pm  
Wednesday Service 7 pm

**Bear Lake Christian**  
M-72 & East Bear Lake Rd.  
Sunday School 9 am  
Sunday Service 10 am

**Lutheran Baptist**  
Pastor James Duffie  
2247 Dorcas Lane  
Sunday School 10 am  
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Sunday Evening 6 pm  
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Sunday Worship 10:30 am

**Unity Church of Today North**  
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at [church@freeway.net](mailto:church@freeway.net)

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Paul T. Prange - Pastor  
Gary H. Johnson, Vice  
For Information Call 321-5338  
The Reformation Community Center  
510 South St., Roscommon, MI

**Hamlet Church**  
A Christian Community  
Rev. Bill Gorman, Pastor  
415 Oak Road, Grayling

## OBITUARIES

### Velma M. Babbitt

Nov. 16, 1919 - Jan. 22, 2004

Velma M. Babbitt, age 84, of Thompson Township, died on January 22, 2004 at Abby's Adult Foster Care Facility in Gulliver.

Mrs. Babbitt was born on November 16, 1919 in Port Huron, a daughter of A. Leslie and Florence (MacGillis) Harmer. On February 28, 1942 she married Leroy R. Babbitt in Flint.

Velma was a former postmaster in Thompson for seven years and also worked for the F.W. Woolworth Company in Marquette for nine years. She found great enjoyment in knitting, crocheting, quiet times reading and especially spending time with her children and grandchildren.

She is survived by her husband, Leroy R. Babbitt of Thompson Township; two children, Nancy Lee Babbitt of Juneau, AK and Jon L. (Sharon) Babbitt of Harvey; three grandchildren, Carl, Jessica and Jordan Babbitt; one great grandchild, Mary Babbitt; two brothers, Roscoe L. (Dorothy) Harmer of Flint and Duane A. (Florence) Harmer of Roscommon; also several nieces and nephews. Preceding her in death besides her parents was a son, James L. Babbitt on July 14, 1969.

A memorial service for Velma was held on January 27, 2004 at the Canale-Tonella Funeral Home with the Reverend Chrys Levesque of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church officiating. Another memorial service was held on January 28, 2004 at the Messier-Broulliere Funeral Home in Manistique with the Reverend Ingmar L. Levin officiating.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Abby's Adult Foster Care Facility, 2852 W. US Hwy 2, Gulliver, MI 49840 in memory of "Miss Velma."

Velma's obituary can also be viewed at [www.canalefuneral.com](http://www.canalefuneral.com) where relatives and family may leave a note of remembrance in her guestbook.

Arrangements by: Canale-Tonella Funeral Home, Marquette.

### Virginia Peterson

Jan. 20, 2004

Virginia Peterson, a long-time resident of Inglis, Florida and Grayling, passed away after a lengthy illness on January 20, 2004.

Mrs. Peterson was born in Mason in 1918. She was a homemaker known for her cooking, sewing and gardening. She was preceded in death by her husband Clifford E. Peterson.

She is survived by her two sons, Douglas L. Lott of Jacksonville, FL and Brad W. Peterson of Ocala, FL; one daughter Gayla Jo Wheat of Margate, FL; and seven grandchildren, Douglas R. Harris of Stockton, CA, Bernardine Andreoli of Coral Springs, FL, Rick L. Lott of Tallahassee, FL, Craig L. Lott of Lawton, Mary Jane Allen of Lawton, Angela Lott of Punta Gorda, FL and Elizabeth Lott of Clearwater, FL. She is also survived by seven great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held on January 24, 2004 at Strickland Funeral Home Chapel. Interment will take place in the Maple Grove Cemetery in Mason.

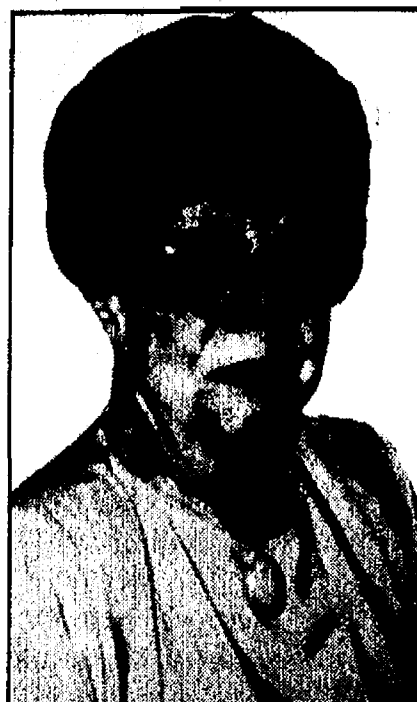
Arrangements by: Strickland Funeral Home, Crystal River, Florida.

### Fred Lewis Niederer

Jan. 9, 1953 - Jan. 20, 2004

Fred Lewis Niederer, age 51, died January 20, 2004.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, January 24, 2004.



### Ella Hanson Braun

Sept. 8, 1910 - Dec. 19, 2003

Ella Hanson Braun, age 93, of Evanston, IL, formerly of Grayling, died December 19, 2003.

Ella was the daughter of Oscar and Bertha Hanson, the identical twin of Margrethe Elizabeth Hanson, and the last surviving granddaughter of Rasmus Hanson, one of Grayling's early Danish settlers.

### Adrienne M. Pardington

Sept. 16, 1921 - Jan. 25, 2004

Adrienne M. "Kitty" Pardington, age 82, of Lovells Township, died January 25, 2004.

Funeral services were held January 28, 2004 at Sorenson Funeral Home.

Arrangements by: Sorenson Funeral Home, McEvers Chapel, Grayling.

## Woodland, Merrill marry



Mr. and Mrs. Joseph P. Merrill

Sarah Elizabeth Woodland and Joseph Philip Merrill were united in marriage on September 6, 2003 at St. David's Episcopal Church in Lansing, the Rev. David Pike officiating.

A reception dinner at the Grand Ledge Opera House followed the ceremony, where guests enjoyed a beautiful view of the Grand River.

The bride is the daughter of Rob and Judy Woodland, of Grayling. She is a graduate of Grayling High School and attended Michigan State University, where she earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree.

The groom is the son of Ray and Jean Merrill, of Grand Ledge. He is a graduate of Mannheim American High School in Mannheim, Germany, and attended the University of Tennessee, where he earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree.

The wedding party included: friends of the bride, Matron of Honor, Katie (Smock) Soule; and Maid of Honor, Samara Sabini; Best Man, Ray Merrill, father of the groom; Groomsman, John Gollehon, friend of the bride and groom; Flower Girl, Sarah Goebeler, niece of the groom; and Ring Bearer, Jake Goebeler, nephew of the groom. Serving as Ushers were Ben, Seth and Luke Horton, cousins of the bride.

Special assistants were Alek and Joel McKenzie, nephews of the groom; Alyssa and Ryan Kramer, niece and nephew of the groom; and Nadine Holzbauer and Lynn Trudeau, friends of the Woodland family.

David, Karen, Melanie and Gretchen Ross, friends of the Woodland family, along with Josh Woodland, brother of the bride, provided music. Musical selections included "Ave Maria," a solo by Gretchen Ross; "The Prayer of St. Francis," and a duet by Gretchen and Melanie Ross.

Pachelbel's "Canon in D" for flute and guitar was played as the bride walked down the aisle on the arm of her father.

After a short honeymoon in Washington, D.C. and Virginia, the couple returned to their home in Lansing.

## In Memory of



### Clarence J. Sampier

Apr. 28, 1918 - Jan. 25, 2003

No one knows the heartache that lies behind the smile.

No one knows how many times we have broken down and cried.

We want to tell you something, so there won't be any doubt.

You're so wonderful to think of, but hard to live without.

Sadly missed and still loved by your best friend.

Mary Martin

## Card of Thanks

We want to thank those folks, who with their visits, expressions of sympathy, and support, helped us get through the death of our daughter, Leesa Jean Galvani. She was a wonderful girl, and we will truly miss her. We live in hope that she is in a place of contentment and free of all troubles. Thanks and God Bless.

Jack and Aggie Trudgeon and family, and husband Don

## GRAYLING POLICE REPORT

Grayling City Police Chief Karl A. Schreiner reports his department handled the following kinds of complaints during the period of January 18-25:

Three assist other departments, one larceny complaint, one traffic warning, one felony arrest, two traffic accidents, one private property accident, one alarm, five civil infractions, and nine unclassified.



# County gives go ahead for appeals

Continued from Page 1A

The court believes its budget requests meet criteria.

Because Judge Kolenda, the Kent County circuit court judge assigned to the case, has approved the court's request to amend its lawsuit by adding its latest dispute over the 2004 court budget: another alleged shortage in appropriations by Crawford County when it did not agree to fully fund the court's requested amount, including a 1.5-percent pay increase for court workers. The county contends the court's amendment will only prolong court proceedings in the case.

Falk will work in conjunction with the county's legal counsel, Cohl, Stoker, Toskey and McGlinchey to prepare interlocutory appeals regarding decisions already handed down

in the case by Judge Kolenda. These appeals include: the decision upholding the court's claim that it had a contract agreement with the county for a retirement and health care benefits package; the ruling granting Otsego County's cross-claim to reimbursement of legal fees paid on behalf of the court; and the decision to allow the January 14 amendment to include 2004 disputed budget issues.

Because Kolenda allowed the court its amended complaint, thus extending the time it will take to make a final decision in the case, the county has authorized its attorneys to request the Court of Appeals "to terminate his involvement in the litigation."

The Board has also authorized its attorneys "to separate-

ly appeal Judge Kolenda's retention of permanent jurisdiction to continue overseeing the Boards of Commissioners (Crawford, Kalkaska and Otsego Counties - the court's funding units) exercise of their legislative prerogative over budgetary matters, or by including it as an issue with one of the other three interlocutory appeals authorized by this resolution."

In a companion resolution passed the same day, the court's request to give its employees a 1.5-percent wage increase finally met approval of the Crawford County Board, with two conditions.

The Board approves the increase in the court's wage line item for 2003-2004 if the court agrees to dismiss its amended complaint filed

January 14, and if Kalkaska and Otsego Counties agree to appropriate accordingly wage line items consistent with the 1.5-percent increase and their shares of the court's approved budget for 2004.

The Board had postponed any decision on the wage issue until it learned the effects of a decrease in state revenue sharing on the county's budget.

Voting in favor of the companion resolution (04-0121B) were Vice Chairman Scott Hanson and Commissioners Dave Stephenson, Shelley Pinkelman, and Terry Beardslee. Voting "no" was Commissioner Rick Anderson. County Chair Lynnette Corlew was absent due to a death in her family. Commissioner Harold "Tike" Golnick was also absent.

## County lags in child well-being, study finds

► Increased reporting of child abuse caused spike in numbers

by Kevin Hardy  
Capital News Service

LANSING — The report card on child well-being is out for Michigan's 83 counties, and Crawford County lags behind much of the class for improvement during the past decade.

According to Kids Count, a report released by the nonprofit Michigan League for Human Services and Michigan's Children, the county was at or near the bottom of most categories. The study is part of the nonprofit's effort to improve economic security, health, safety and education throughout the state.

Crawford County ranked last in eighth grade students profi-

cient in social studies, according to data from 1998 to 2002. But Crawford AuSable School District Superintendent Milli Haug said those measures fail to account for areas the county schools focus on — reading and mathematics — and that social studies testing is a relatively new practice in the state.

"We have some struggles in the county," she said. "We work with the kids we have."

Haug said the schools play a crucial role in expanding a child's development, especially if a student falls behind early on.

"We have learned how critical birth to preschool is for the children," Haug said. "In some cases, the schools have to fill these gaps."

The county's highest mark came in the adequacy of prenatal care. It ranked 16th in the state. But the county ranked

below 70th for improvement in its poverty rate, confirmed victims of abuse or neglect, and high school dropouts.

Jane Zehnder-Merrell, a senior research associate for the Michigan League for Human Services, said the growing rate of abuse and neglect is the result of putting greater efforts into investigating each report, as well as more citizens coming forward to report abuse and neglect. "That doesn't mean there's an increase in the amount of neglect and abuse suffered, she said.

Statewide, Michigan demonstrated progress in the last decade in the decline of teenage births and fatal injuries, but also saw a jump in the number of cases of child abuse and neglect, enduring a 35-percent spike in investigations of such complaints.

The state's most dramatic

advance, according to the report, is a 39-percent decline in babies born to 15- to 17-year old mothers, highlighted by continued improvement from 1990 to 1992, when 36 out of every 1,000 girls gave birth, compared with 22 between 1999 and 2002.

"There's a perception that things are worsening for children, but that's simply not what the data supports," Zehnder-Merrell said.

Karen Smith, communications director for Michigan's Family Independence Agency, said the report could offer guidance to tailor programs to address county needs.

"It's teachers, principals, pastors, and others getting together and discussing how to spend their funds," she said. "They sit down and say, 'We've been spending funds here, when we have a problem here.'"

## Marijuana grower sentenced

by Cheryl Luey  
Staff Writer

A Beaver Creek Township man, whose home was found last summer to contain a large pot growing operation, was sentenced earlier this month on felony charges of delivery/manufacturing of marijuana.

Burton Canfield, Jr., age 36, was sentenced on January 8 to 90 days in jail by 46th Circuit Trial Court Judge Dennis F. Murphy. Canfield was also ordered to pay \$920 in fines and

court costs, had his drivers license suspended and was placed on 18 months probation.

In June 2003, more than 70 plants were found at Canfield's Beaver Road home, the street value of which was determined to be about \$318,000 by investigators from the Crawford County Sheriff's Office and Strike Team Investigative Narcotics Group (STING). Other items used in the manufacture and sale of the drug were also confiscated from the home.

This was not Canfield's first drug conviction. In July 2000, he was convicted of marijuana possession.

During the sentencing hearing, Judge Murphy asked Canfield if he wasn't "a little too old for this?" Canfield admitted he was addicted to marijuana.

Canfield faced a maximum penalty of seven years in prison and/or a \$500,000 fine, which could have been doubled due to his previous drug conviction.

## Sheriff warns of e-mail scam

Continued from Page 1A  
sent on a Sunday evening around 9 p.m. Both were sent from non-government e-mail addresses.

"Whatever you do if you receive an e-mail like this, don't go to the website links," Wakefield warned. "Don't give these scam artists your personal information."

The sheriff said there is not much his office can do to stop the e-mails or catch those responsible. "The best we can do is to warn people about e-mails scams and to educate those who may be vulnerable to such threats that may lead to identity theft. I am most concerned about our seniors," he said. "These guys are out there just waiting for their next victim."

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## Volunteer group announces 2004 meeting schedule

The Northwest Michigan Association of Volunteer Administrators (NMAVA) is a group of area volunteer administrators supporting each other through collaboration, marketing, education and training. Monthly meetings are held at members' organizations on the first Thursday of each month, except for July.

NMAVA is an affiliate of the Association for Volunteer Administration, an international organization dedicated to enhancing the competence of members and strengthening the profession of volunteer resource management.

Monthly meetings are designed to educate volunteer administrators through guest speakers and networking opportunities.

Meeting dates and locations for 2004 are: February 5 at Munson Medical Center, March 1 at Great Lakes Children's Museum, April 1 at The Dennon Museum Center, May 6 at the United Way, June 3 at Probate Court Volunteers Offices, July 22 at the MSU Extension, August 5 at The Dennon Museum Center, September 9 at Foster Grandparents, October 7 at Girl Scouts of Crooked Tree, November 4 at Probate Court Volunteers Offices, and December 2 at Munson Medical Center.

For more information regarding meetings, call Judith Albers at The Dennon Museum Center, (231) 995-1595, or Theresa Stachnik at Munson Medical Center, (231) 935-7455.

## Retirement reception planned for Dr. Moon

To celebrate the retirement of Jin K. Moon, M.D., OB/GYN, a reception will be held at Otsego Memorial Hospital (OMH) on February 2 in his honor.

The reception is scheduled from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the cafeteria of OMH. Refreshments will be served.

Dr. Moon has been on Medical Staff at Otsego Memorial Hospital since 1976. He has served the community as a Board Certified Obstetrician and Gynecologist.

He has performed a vast number of gynecologic reconstructive surgeries, as well as laparoscopes and hysteroscopes.

From 1976 to 1997 Dr. Moon was the only obstetrician in Gaylord.

"I have delivered between 4,000 to 5,000 babies in my



Jin K. Moon, M.D., OB/GYN

career," said Dr. Moon.

He completed his graduate work at Catholic Medical School in Seoul, Korea, and his intern-

ship and residency at Grace Hospital in Detroit. He is Board Certified by the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology and the American Board of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

Dr. Moon is also a member of the Gynecologic/Pelvic Reconstructive Surgery Society and certified laparoscope and hysteroscope surgery by the Accreditation Council for Gynecologic Endoscopy.

"Caring for women's health and delivering babies has been very rewarding," said Dr. Moon. "Even after 27 years, I'm still in awe of the miracle of birth."

Dr. Moon said he is grateful to the community for allowing him to be involved in their healthcare. Dr. Moon plans on teaching part time in his birth country, Korea after his retirement.

## Volunteers needed for Foster Care Review Boards

► Supreme Court asks citizens to help improve state foster care system in Crawford County

LANSING — The State Court Administrative Office of the Michigan Supreme Court is seeking volunteers to serve on the Crawford County Foster Care Review Board.

The Michigan Legislature established the Foster Care Review Board Program in 1984 in an effort to improve children's foster care programs through the state utilizing citizen review boards.

The five to seven member boards meet one day each month to review a representative sample of cases of children who have been removed from their homes and placed in foster care due to abuse or neglect.

At these reviews, board members interview parents, foster parents, caseworkers, attorneys, and other interested parties who may be involved in planning for the ward. Advisory recommendations are formulated and mailed to the court, child welfare agency, prosecuting attorney, parents, and other interested parties.

The purpose of the review is to ensure that all agencies, including the court, have established a plan for the ward and progress is being made toward achieving permanency.

The Foster Care Review Boards are comprised of citizens who reflect a broad cross section of their communities. Minorities and men are especially encouraged to apply. The Program is seeking volunteers who have demonstrated leadership in other settings. Employees of the Family Independence Agency, family court, or private child placement agencies are prohibit-

ed by law to serve on Foster Care Review Boards.

Each volunteer who is selected must attend a two-day orientation training in Lansing on March 25-26. This training is a requirement to serve on a board. Also, board members attend yearly training which is held in different locations throughout the state, and expenses for training are reimbursed.

If you live in a rural or northern part of the state, it is possible you may be selected for a multi-county board. Members of multi-county boards would be required to travel to several different locations for board reviews, once a month.

Citizens interested in becoming a board member for the Foster Care Review Board should call (517) 373-1956 for an application. The deadline for receiving applications is February 13 and the interviews with prospective candidates will take place on February 18.

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## Area offers cross country skiers a lot of options

Whether you like to be challenged on the cross country ski trails or are just out for a relaxing schuss with the family, the Crawford County area offers more than 75 kilometers of cross country ski routes, including one that's ready even when there's no snow.

Grayling area trails put skiers at the center of the Lower Peninsula's "cross-country country," which includes scenery from wilderness trout streams to historic virgin white pines that recall the state's lumber baron past.

Within a 20-minute drive of downtown Grayling, for example, are three pristine and unique trail experiences, according to ski outfitters Dick Fultz, operator of the Cross Country Ski Shop in Grayling, Bob Frye, who with wife Lynne operates Cross Country Ski Headquarters (located a few minutes south of town near Higgins Lake, with the state's only cross country trail featuring machine-made snow), and David Forbush, who has attained a national reputation for grooming on his 37 kilometers of trail at Forbush Corner Ski Area near Frederic, just north of Grayling.

"The trails in our area are just fabulous and Grayling is a great central location," Fultz said. "Within a 30-mile radius of town, you could ski a different system every weekend of the season."

Fultz, Frye, and Forbush offer their own "Top 10 List" for cross country skiing in the area, with different categories to help skiers pick trails that best reflect what they want to do:

• Best beginner trail - In Frye's opinion, his own store-side ski trail featuring the state's only guaranteed snow for cross country is tops for beginners. It's part of CCHQ's 19-plus-kilometers of trail. Doubled in length to two kilometers this season, it's flat and a great place to check out new equipment and ski when there's no natural snow. Beginners might also check out the Cross Country

Ski Shop's lighted 0.8-mile loop and Forbush Corner Ski Area's 1-kilometer "Pancake" beginner loop.

• Best expert trail - Forbush Corner's 7-kilometer "Roller Coaster" trail is very technical with lots of hills and is known for its hairpin climbs. "David Forbush grooms it really well and for a lot of advanced skiers, it's worth the cost (a day pass is \$15)," said Frye. Forbush said the trail's difficulty has been honed down, giving it a broader appeal. Fultz voted for the Yellow Loop at Hanson Hills, a tricky 5-mile path that winds through AuSable State Forest. Hanson Hills, which has 35 kilometers of pathways, is run by Grayling Recreation Authority.

• Most scenic - Frye, Fultz, and Forbush agree that for sheer northern Michigan beauty, you can't beat the Mason Tract Pathway. Located between Grayling and Roscommon, this 9-mile trail runs through the George Mason Wilderness Tract. Parking lots for the trail are located on Chase Bridge Road (south and east of Grayling off M-72) and near Canoe Harbor State Forest Campground off M-72. Follow the well-marked trail along the AuSable River South Branch through untouched forest as it meanders towards its eventual meeting with the river's main stream beyond Canoe Harbor. The trail also features two loops.

Forbush also likes Roller Coaster due to its elevation - portions of it are at 1,300 feet above sea level - and its scenic sugar maples and pines. Others include the Lost Twin Lakes near Houghton Lake, the Manitou Trail at Cross Country Ski Headquarters, the skier-set Wakeley Lake Pathway east of Grayling, and trails at North and South Higgins Lake state parks.

• Best short trail - Among the 18 miles of routes in Hartwick Pines State Park, the Old Growth Trail winds through the majestic 200-foot pines and past a replica logging camp. Or, try the three-

mile AuSable River Footpath, a skier-set trail that twice crosses the East Branch of the AuSable River. Snowshoers can also try the Old Growth Trail.

• Longest - The 12-kilometer (8.4 miles) Red Loop at Hanson Hills.

• Hilliest - Contenders include Hanson Hills' Red Loop, and the Rollercoaster, Screamer, and Stinker trails at Forbush Corner. "Stinker is like going up a wall. We groom it going downhill because you can't get the groomer up it," Forbush said.

• Flattest - Cross Country Ski Headquarters' Tall Pines Trail runs through a stand of Norwegian pines, a great route for families with younger skiers who may be uncomfortable on hills. The Mason Tract Pathway is also a great family-oriented route.

• Best night skiing - At Cross Country Ski Headquarters, ski all trails at night by borrowing LED headlights from the shop. Some Hartwick Pines ski trails also are lighted at special times, and a lighted beginner trail is at the Cross Country Ski Shop.

• Best overall ski experience - Because of the variety and closeness to downtown Grayling, Hanson Hills (three miles away) and Forbush Corner (seven miles north off I-75's Frederic exit) get the vote. Forbush Corner is considered one of the top privately-owned systems in the midwest

because of its outstanding grooming. Trails are single track set with skating lines adjacent, with the midwest's largest cross country only equipment fleet. It is often one of the first natural snow systems open.

• Best time of the week to ski - State trails are groomed each Friday morning and privately-run trails are groomed as needed.

Note: Skyline Ski & Country Club, located at 4020 Skyline Road near the 251 I-75 exit, also offers a developing cross country ski trail network.

For more information:

Cross Country Ski Headquarters (located south of Grayling on County Road 100): [www.cross-country-ski.com](http://www.cross-country-ski.com)

Cross Country Ski Shop (located off I-75 Business Loop behind Grayling Holiday Inn): [www.xcskishop.com](http://www.xcskishop.com)

Forbush Corner (located just east of I-75 exit 264): [www.forbushcorner.com](http://www.forbushcorner.com)

Hanson Hills Recreation Area (located on Old Lake Road just west of Grayling): [www.hansonhills.org](http://www.hansonhills.org)

Skyline Ski & Country Club (located at 4020 Skyline Road near the 251 I-75 exit): [www.skylineski.com](http://www.skylineski.com)

For more on cross country skiing and other things to do in Grayling, contact the Grayling Visitors Bureau at (800) 937-8837 or online: [www.grayling-mi.com](http://www.grayling-mi.com)

## RANGE FIRING

Range firing scheduled during January 28 - February 3 is as follows:

The Range 40 Air to Ground Complex, located north of County Rd. 612, east of Guthrie Lake, south of Old State Rd. 618, and west of Old State Rd. F97 (Twin Bridge Rd.) January 28-30, February 3.

Heavy weapons range firing is scheduled from sunrise until three hours after sunset. Occasionally, mission-firing

requirements beyond this time may be authorized by the Post Commander without additional notice to the public. The firing schedule is subject to change without notice to the public.

Contact the Grayling Department of Natural Resources for the area closed for hunting within the boundaries of the installation. Grayling DNR telephone number: 989-348-6371. For further information call 1-800-628-5820.

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**CRAWFORD COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY****WEEKDAY SCHEDULED SERVICES TO:****FREDERICK & MAPLE FOREST**

|                 |            |
|-----------------|------------|
| Leaves Grayling | 5:45 a.m.  |
| Leaves Grayling | 6:45 a.m.  |
| Leaves Grayling | 9:00 a.m.  |
| Leaves Grayling | 11:30 a.m. |
| Leaves Grayling | 3:30 p.m.  |
| Leaves Grayling | 5:00 p.m.  |

**LOVELLS**

|                 |            |
|-----------------|------------|
| Leaves Grayling | 9:00 a.m.  |
| Leaves Grayling | 11:30 a.m. |
| Leaves Grayling | 3:30 p.m.  |
| Leaves Grayling | 5:00 p.m.  |

**M-72 EAST**

|                 |            |
|-----------------|------------|
| Leaves Grayling | 6:00 a.m.  |
| Leaves Grayling | 7:00 a.m.  |
| Leaves Grayling | 9:00 a.m.  |
| Leaves Grayling | 11:30 a.m. |
| Leaves Grayling | 1:30 p.m.  |
| Leaves Grayling | 3:30 p.m.  |
| Leaves Grayling | 5:00 p.m.  |

**M-72 WEST**

Demand Response Service  
Calls Worked In Between Other Runs

**BEAVER CREEK & ROSCOMMON**

|                 |            |
|-----------------|------------|
| Leaves Grayling | 7:30 a.m.  |
| Leaves Grayling | 11:00 a.m. |
| Leaves Grayling | 1:00 p.m.  |
| Leaves Grayling | 2:15 p.m.  |
| Leaves Grayling | 4:30 p.m.  |

\*The 1:00 p.m. south run does not go all the way into Roscommon.  
To Request Weekday Demand Response Services  
Call Dispatch @ 348-5409.

**RURAL HEALTH INITIATIVE TRIPS**

Transportation dependent individuals requiring transportation for the purpose of accessing specialty medical services not locally available may qualify for RHI medical transportation services.

Information regarding RHI medical transportation services can be obtained by contacting:

Dave Frederick @ 348-8215

**SPECIAL EVENT TRIPS\*\*****Scheduled For February 2004**

Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2004  
Destination: Victoria's Casino-Petoskey  
Departs Grayling 9:00 a.m.  
Arrives back in Grayling 4:00 p.m. (Approximately)

\*\*Special Event Trips Require: (1) a minimum of twenty-two passengers; and (2) that passengers less than 18 years of age be accompanied by a responsible adult.

To Reserve Seats or Request Information Concerning Special Event Trips  
Call Richard or Gary @ 348-5409



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**Mercy home health care division sold to Munson**

The local Mercy Amicare Homecare and Hospice Service organizations' parent company, Trinity Home Health Services, has sold its private duty/private pay division, Mercy Healthcare at Home.

Munson Healthcare System is purchasing the private duty service line and will continue to provide the same private duty services in Grayling and Cadillac residents have experienced for over four years from Mercy Healthcare at Home.

The Mercy Amicare Homecare and Hospice sites are not affected by this sale. Coordinating care with a physician, Amicare home care services provide the important link in the continuum of care between hospitalization or physician care and return to everyday life.

These services are often reimbursed by either Medicare or commercial health insurance, and are frequently referred to as "Certified" or "Medicare" home care services.

"Our 'certified' line of business has always been the primary focus of Amicare, and the core service line of Trinity Home Health Services as it supports and continues the care provided by the hospital," said Jan Bersted, Executive Director of both the Grayling and Cadillac Mercy Amicare locations.

"The trend in the past few years has been for many south-east Michigan hospital-based home care agencies to close down or sell their private duty home care and focus on the 'certified' and hospice service lines."

Questions regarding Mercy Amicare Homecare and Hospice services in Grayling or Cadillac can be directed to Brenda Lake at (231) 876-4504. Questions regarding the private duty services offered by Munson should be directed to Linda Rutman at 1-800-968-2011.

**You may be eligible for a bigger tax refund**

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is urging working taxpayers with low incomes to review their eligibility for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) to see if they qualify for tax relief.

This year, the IRS and over 400 volunteer sites around Michigan are available to help taxpayers figure out their eligibility.

"We receive the majority of EITC claims in February, usually after workers receive their Forms W-2," said IRS Michigan spokesperson, Sarah Wreford. "EITC recipients may also qualify for free tax preparation and electronic filing through Free File, which is located at www.irs.gov."

"This is an important program, and you should check to see if you qualify," Wreford added. "EITC rules can be complicated so you should carefully review the qualifications. Know, don't guess, if you are qualified. If in doubt, contact the IRS or its volunteer partners for help. If someone prepares your taxes, seek out a reputable professional who understands EITC rules and who will avoid common mistakes."

EITC eligibility rules can be

found in Publication 596 and through links at 1040 Central on www.irs.gov. For tax preparers, there is a new EITC information kit at www.irs-eltc.info/preparer/ and a new EITC tool kit in Publication 3107E.

Income limits have increased for the 2003 tax year. Taxpayers must earn less than \$33,692 if they have two or more qualifying children, \$29,666 with one qualifying child, or \$11,230 if there are no children. Income limits are \$1,000 higher if a couple's filing status is married filing jointly.

The maximum refundable credit for the 2003 tax year is \$4,204 for a family with two or more qualifying children, \$2,547 for a family with one qualifying child and \$382 if there are no qualifying children. Many taxpayers will qualify for less than the maximum, depending on their income.

Wreford also reminds military families that many of them may also qualify for EITC because supplemental payments and combat pay are exempt from the income calculations.

The EITC was enacted in 1975 to offset federal taxes paid by

low-income wage earners and to serve as a work incentive. Last year, nearly 592,000 Michigan taxpayers collected more than \$1 billion in EITC payments.

"However, and importantly, we estimate that an additional 133,000 Michiganiens were also entitled to the credit, but didn't claim it," said Wreford. "And those taxpayers missed out on receiving nearly \$85 million in EITC refund checks."

The IRS is broadening its outreach to EITC claimants in an effort to maximize participation and minimize errors on tax returns. The IRS is taking several steps, including:

- Working with more than 180 community-based organizations nationwide to reach low-income workers who may be unaware of the EITC availability;

- Helping set up 14,000 volunteer centers around the country that offer free tax preparation for low-income and elderly individuals. Times and locations of these volunteer centers are publicized locally; and

- Providing additional EITC tools to tax practitioners who must perform due diligence when preparing tax returns.

**LIBRARY NEWS****Devereaux Memorial****Crawford County Library**

On Wednesday, February 4, the second in a series of "Media Violence in Our Culture" films and discussions will be presented at noon.

This second presentation is entitled "Tough Guise Part I." This program series is designed for parents, professionals and community members who are concerned about the messages our young people are receiving through various media. Refreshments will be available.

Children's Story Hour returns to the library on Thursday, February 5 at 10:30 a.m., introducing the joy of books and learning to children between the ages of three and five years. All children are welcome and encouraged to participate in Story Hour that includes hands-

on craft activities, singing, and play activities. Story Hour will be held every Thursday at 10:30 a.m. at the library in Grayling.

Bring your used books (in good condition) to the library on Tuesday, February 10 for the "Give the Gift of Reading: Ghana" program. At 7 p.m. Grayling resident Tasha Carlisle will share her experiences from her year in Africa. Money has been raised to ship community donations of books to a small library in Ghana, where the children are in dire need of reading materials as they learn English.

For those who can not come for the February 10 event, books will be accepted at the library until 2 p.m. on Saturday, February 14.

Kids ages eight years and up are urged to register now for two sessions of "Cooking with Kids."

On Thursday, February 12 at 3:30 p.m., kids can learn the basics of Italian cooking and eating. On Thursday, February 19, kids can learn the basics of Asian cooking and cuisine. Class size is limited to 10 children per session. Call 348-9214 or stop by the library to register.

Due to a back order with the publisher, copies of *The Perfect Storm*, the book selected for the "One Book, One County" reading program, group discussions scheduled for February 19 and 20 have been postponed until further notice.

For more information about county-wide library services or to register for children's programs, call 348-9214.

The Devereaux Memorial Crawford County Library is located at 201 Plum Street in Grayling.

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# City, township amend fire agreement

The City of Grayling and Grayling Township recently adjusted its Mutual Fire Protection Agreement, with the most significant changes involving the Grayling Fire Department's policy-making committee, the formula used to calculate each municipality's share of the department's general operations budget, and length of time the agreement will remain valid.

The new Mutual Fire Protection Agreement was passed by the City Council on January 12, and the Grayling Township Board approved it on January 14. The new agreement, which replaces the Mutual Fire Protection Agreement passed in 2002, became effective on January 14 following approval by Grayling Township.

Changes include:

- Agreement length - Old: 2002 through 2012. New: Two years, from effective date of January 14, 2004.
- Share of budget - Old agreement: City 35 percent, township 65 percent from 2002-03; City 30 percent, township 70 percent from 2003-04; From 2004-2012, the percentage was scheduled to come from a formula involving population and state equalized value. New agreement: City 30 percent, township 70 percent, for the full term of the two-year agreement.

Both agreements: The city and township will continue to split the cost for the fire department's "current land holdings, future land acquisitions, buildings, and the maintenance of such land and buildings for the purpose of fire protection" on a "50/50 basis."

• Grayling City/Township Fire Committee - According to the new agreement, it is the committee's job to: "make policy and procedural recommendations to the governing boards (city council, township board)," "direct the implementation of policies and procedures which have been approved by the governing boards," "assist the Chief in preparing the annual fire department budget" and "present budget recommendations to the governing boards," "make recommendations to the governing boards for the purpose of hiring the Fire Chief," and to "confirm or deny the recommendations of the Chief in hiring firemen."

Old agreement: The committee consisted of the fire chief, city manager, city treasurer, township supervisor, and township clerk. The new agreement replaces the city treasurer's spot with a member of the city council (to be appointed by the council) and replaces the township clerk with a voting member of the township board other than the supervisor (to be appointed by the township board). The new agreement also stipulates that the township supervisor will be the committee's chairman, and the city manager will be vice-chair.



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# Buying The Engagement Ring

By Doris A. Black

You've found the girl of your dreams and you're ready to take the big leap into marriage, now what? It's simple—present her with an engagement ring if you want her to say, "Yes!" But what should you buy? How much should you spend? What type of ring would she like? These are all common questions asked by men ready to take the plunge.

Originally the engagement ring signified that a woman was "spoken for." It wasn't until the 1600s that a more romantic significance was attached to the ritual. During this time engagement rings were called gimmel rings and there was one for the groom as well as the bride. They were entwined until the man offered one to the woman who captured his heart. Both parties would wear the rings until the wedding ceremony. Then at the ceremony, the groom would remove his ring and place it on her finger. Although we only use one ring today, its meaning remains the same.

There are no set rules of etiquette for buying an engagement ring, but there are some important facts to consider before making a purchase. First, set a budget. Two months' salary is a common guideline but it is not set in stone. Figure out what price range best works for your situation and stick to it. Second, choose a reputable jeweler. Look for one who is a member of the American Gem Society or Jewelers of America. A good jeweler will help you choose the best ring for your budget without

pressuring you to "upgrade" as some commissioned salespeople will try to do. Third, do a little homework before setting foot in a jewelry store.

Most women would love to receive a diamond engagement ring, but other stones are acceptable, too. As a matter of fact, you may want to take your fiancée along to choose her own ring. Stone, style and cut are all a matter of personal preference.

In general, diamonds are valued based on these four characteristics:

Cut is the most important factor in determining the value of a diamond. A good cut will enhance the diamond's natural beauty; it will sparkle and reflect light off its many faceted surfaces. A stone with 57 facets is considered brilliant cut and is the most desirable.

Clarity refers to the flawlessness of a diamond. Some low-quality stones may have flaws visible to the naked eye, but many other flaws, or inclusions as they are called, can only be seen through a jeweler's loupe. Inclusions look like cloudy areas within the stone. Diamonds are graded according to clarity. Those with minimal inclusions not visible to the naked eye are graded VVS1 or VVS2. Stones with clearly visible flaws are graded I1 or I3. Only the rarest of diamonds are flawless.

Color also determines a diamond's value. The less color, the more valuable the diamond. Diamonds are graded on the alphabet scale from D-Z. Colorless grade D diamonds are the most valuable. However, there is an additional category for diamonds which naturally contain a large

amount of color. They are called "fancy" diamonds and may be pink, yellow, green, blue or red. These are extremely rare and among the most expensive.

Carat refers to the size of the diamond in weight. The larger the diamond, the more valuable it is. A carat is equal to 100 points. Therefore, a .75 carat diamond is 3/4 of a carat in size.

When you first visit the jeweler, ask them to show you diamonds of different sizes, colors and clarity, so you and your fiancée can see for yourselves how these diamond characteristics come into play with price.

For a selection of stones other than diamonds, consider some of the other precious or semi-precious stones, such as sapphires, rubies, emeralds, pearls, opals or garnets. Of course, a few of these, such as emeralds and rubies, may cost more than a diamond, but they make magnificent engagement rings.

While at the jeweler, you may want to glance at the estate jewelry. Many of the old settings are quite spectacular and may accommodate the stone of your choice. Heirloom jewelry is another alternative. If you have a ring that has been handed down in your family or has particular sentimental value, it is perfectly appropriate to offer it as the engagement ring as long as it was not owned by a former fiancée.

Keep in mind the four C's when shopping for a wedding ring and you'll do just fine. Choosing the right ring sure beats getting married with a cigar band.

## Basic Wedding Etiquette Guidelines

By Doris A. Black

There are dozens of books on the market specifically geared toward wedding etiquette. Each has their own version of what is acceptable and what is not. Depending on how closely you choose to follow etiquette, here are some basics.

Bachelor and bachelorette party rules no longer require the sexes to have separate parties. There is no reason, as long as both sides agree, why one party for the whole wedding party cannot be arranged. In this case, all those attending would pitch in an equal amount to cover costs.

Send wedding invitations to both sets of parents as a keepsake, as well as to the officiate. Send one to all members of the wedding party. If you don't want children at the wedding, either print "Adult Reception" on the invite or use word-of-mouth to spread the word. All invites should include a "Reply by" date. Call guests who have not replied one week after that date. You can estimate that about 85% of the guests you invite will attend. Make sure your RSVPs include postage.

Everyone who is involved in the ceremony needs to be at the wedding rehearsal, including musicians, parents of the bride and groom, and all attendants, whether groomsmen or bridesmaids. A rehearsal dinner usually follows the ceremony practice but does not include spouses or significant others of those in the wedding party unless specifically invited

by the hosts, which in most cases are the groom's parents. Practicing the music at the rehearsal is essential. We take many of our cues from the music at the ceremony and one little screw-up can throw everyone off balance.

For the ceremony seating, the parents of the bride and groom should sit in the front row respectively. However, in today's complicated society, families are not always cut and dried. In the case of divorced parents who don't get along, the mother sits in the front row with her new husband and the father sits in the second row with his new spouse. If everyone is friendly, they may all sit in the front row together. Don't arrive late to the wedding or you can consider it missed. Once the mother of the bride is seated, a signal that the ceremony has begun, formal and informal seating is complete. No guest should ever enter the ceremony once it has started under any circumstances.

With a wedding of over 75 guests in attendance, you may want to limit the receiving line to bride and groom, mother of the bride and groom, and maid-of-honor/best man. For smaller numbers of guests, the whole wedding party and fathers may be in attendance. Technically a receiving line should take place at the reception upon entrance of the first guests but since many couples schedule post-wedding photographs to be taken immediately following the ceremony, it is acceptable to hold the receiving line outside the church.

At the reception, plan on feeding the band or DJ when making catering arrangements. Don't do the money dance—it's tacky. Head table seating is up for grabs these days, so any combination of the wedding party, parents, grandparents and significant others is fine. Assign seating if having over 30 guests at the reception. You don't have to name each person to a seat; just put the names on tables. For example, seat the Miller family and the O'Brian family together at one table. The parents of the wedding couple should sit at a reserved table if they are not already seated at the head table. Don't bring gifts to the reception. Gifts should always be sent to the bride's residence prior to the wedding.

At the reception the bride and groom should have the first dance prior to a sit-down dinner. The bride should dance with the groom's father and the groom with the bride's mother. Etiquette also calls for the bridesmaids and groomsmen to dance together regardless of marital status. The garter toss, while a long-standing traditional event, has recently fallen out of favor. The bouquet toss, another long-standing event, can be omitted if desired, but is acceptable if kept low-key.

If the wedding is called off, you should return the gifts unused. Make sure you keep a list of who sent what. Engraved gifts may be kept. Cancel travel plans immediately and inform guests who planned to travel to your wedding first.

Keep in mind that these are just some basic wedding etiquette guidelines. Ultimately, it is your day and you need to bring to it your unique outlook so it will be much more memorable to you.

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# Make Choosing A Wedding Gift Easy

By Doris A. Black

Today a bridal registry offers more options than ever before. By following a few basic guidelines, you can make choosing a gift an easy process for your guests and avoid receiving duplicates.

Wedding guests really do appreciate having a list of items to choose from. They want to purchase something they know the bride and groom will need and use. For couples who have been living on their own for a while or for those who have been married before, registering is even more important. For your guests, it will pinpoint items you need as a couple outside of your individual households. Whether or not this is your first time living away from home, following these guidelines will not only ensure you get the gifts you need but will make the whole gift buying process easier for your guests.

The first step in registering is to make a list of possible registry locations and visit each retailer as a couple to view items and decide if you both like the quality and choice of products. This process should start soon after the engagement is announced so friends and family members will be able to use the registry for engagement and shower gifts in addition to wedding gifts. Once you've chosen a retailer, make an appointment with the bridal registry consultant to ensure you'll

receive their undivided attention.

Before registering, ask some basic questions such as return policies and delivery options. Also inquire if the bridal registry is available online. These days most bridal registries are computerized, so ask for a printout of the items you've selected upon registration and periodically request updates adding more items if necessary.

When registering, choose items in a variety of price ranges to fit everyone's budget. Don't omit the pricier items as they are the perfect gift choice for families or groups of friends/coworkers. Electronics fit into this category, such as big-screen televisions, video cameras, cell phones or computers. When selecting fine tableware, remember it will last a lifetime, so take your time choosing a pattern you can live with for years. Consider choosing some less common items as well, including hobby-related items, such as fishing gear, skis, backpacks or even a gift certificate to your favorite antique mall.

In the past, traditional registries have been at department stores. They are still a good choice for china, flatware, linens, bedding and housewares, but also consider some non-traditional locations such as smaller boutiques that offer distinctive gifts.

Home improvement stores are quickly rising to the top of bridal

registry lists for couples buying a home. Lighting, patio furniture, tools and lawn and garden equipment are the most often requested items.

With the advent of the Internet, registry locations are limitless. Out-of-town guests will appreciate the opportunity to shop via the Internet for its convenience and direct shipping capabilities, so select at least one retailer with online ordering.

Some couples would rather have cash than gifts; however, it's tacky to request cash. Instead, establish a house account where guests can contribute funds toward the purchase of your home if that is what you are saving for. Contact your preferred lender to find out what kind of arrangements can be made. Most are willing to work with you.

Honeymoon registries are also a good idea. Some people like to have a hand in helping with the honeymoon even if they don't know where you'll be staying. Ask your travel agent to set up a honeymoon account and don't forget to tell your family and friends.

Managing the incoming gifts can be daunting if you're not organized. Stay on top of the thank-you notes. Open gifts as they arrive and keep a ledger of who sent what. This will be your bible when it comes to sending those thank-you notes. Thank-you notes should always be handwritten, never typed. Most men

don't like to help with this chore, so instead of getting into a pre-wedding battle over it, enlist the help of a bridesmaid or maid of honor so you don't have to do it all yourself. Although the bride or groom should write the note personally, the bridesmaid can address envelopes or place stamps. Plan a fun hour with the girls once every few weeks to write thank-yous, catch up on news and have a few giggles.

Bridal registry today means more than just getting a toaster or some other household appliance. With the large variety of stores on every corner and on the Internet, there is no limit to the gifts you can ask for, and with any luck, get.

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## The Surprise Bridal Shower

By Doris A. Black

Turn an ordinary bridal shower into a memorable occasion by surprising the bride with a party thrown by friends and family. The responsibility of arranging the bridal shower traditionally falls to the maid of honor but that doesn't mean she has to do it all. As a matter of fact, most other women in the bridal party, not to mention the mother of the bride, would probably be flattered if you asked them to help with the party.

Typically the party is held a couple of months before the wedding, which means the party planners need to make the arrangements even earlier. Today grooms are also invited to the shower, making it a couples party, so this is one of the first decisions the party planners need to make. Will it be a traditional party for the bride or a couple's party for both the bride and groom?

Generally speaking, the bridal shower attendees are members of the immediate family, close friends and bridal party members. Keep in mind that etiquette dictates that everyone invited to the shower must also be invited to the wedding. When inviting guests, be sure to emphasize that the party is to be a surprise.

The shower, whether it is a couple's party or a traditional bridal shower, can be as formal or informal as you want. Set the tone in accordance with the bride's personality. If she is a blue jeans and beer type of girl, then an informal party would be appropriate. If, on the other hand, she's more a diamonds and designer suits woman, a more formal affair would be appropriate. The invitation should reflect what kind of party it is, so attendees will

dress and behave accordingly.

The location of the shower is all-important in setting the mood for the party. A backyard party may be perfect for an informal bridal shower or a local restaurant of casual dining may work just as well. For the formal bridal shower, think upscale and you can't go wrong.

Many bridal shower planners include games in the festivities. However, not everyone enjoys this silly ritual and often sends regrets if they know games are on the schedule. If you must have them, keep it to one or two short ones. After all, the focus should be on the bride.

Having a themed shower is a good idea. Themes add spice to the party and give guests direction when selecting gifts. Two ideas for shower themes are the alphabet party and the time of day party. For the alphabet party, each guest is assigned a letter of the alphabet and must bring a gift starting with that letter. For example, B = blender or BBQ utensils, P = pitcher or pillow—get the idea? The time of day party is another fun theme where guests pick an hour of the day and bring a gift corresponding to that time. For example, an 8:00 a.m. gift would be a breakfast tray or toaster. A variation of this idea is the month of the year party where guests are assigned a month and bring gifts appropriate to that time. It's a nice way for the bride to receive gifts for use year-round. For co-ed parties where the groom and other men will be in attendance, a home improvement party is ideal. Guests bring gifts for either the groom or bride. The honeymoon theme is also popular at showers if the couple has selected their destination.

Finishing touches for the bridal shower might include food and music. If the shower has a small number of attendees, consider a sit-down luncheon with table decorations and folded napkins to help set a festive atmosphere. If an informal home gathering is the setting, consider finger foods or dessert trays.

No matter what theme you choose for the bridal shower or if you choose to go without a theme, the element of surprise will serve to enhance the event.

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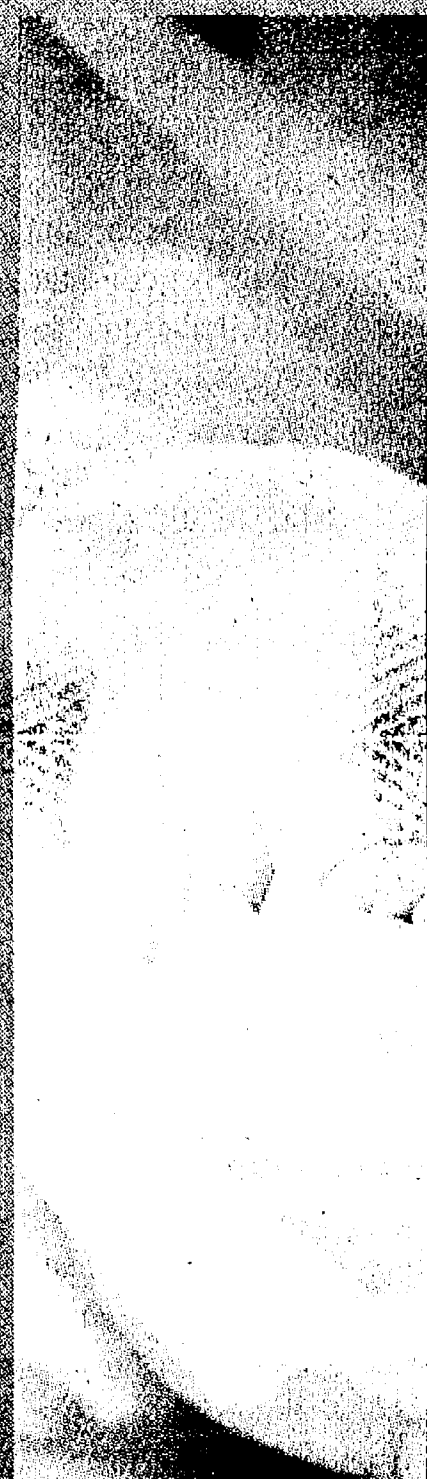


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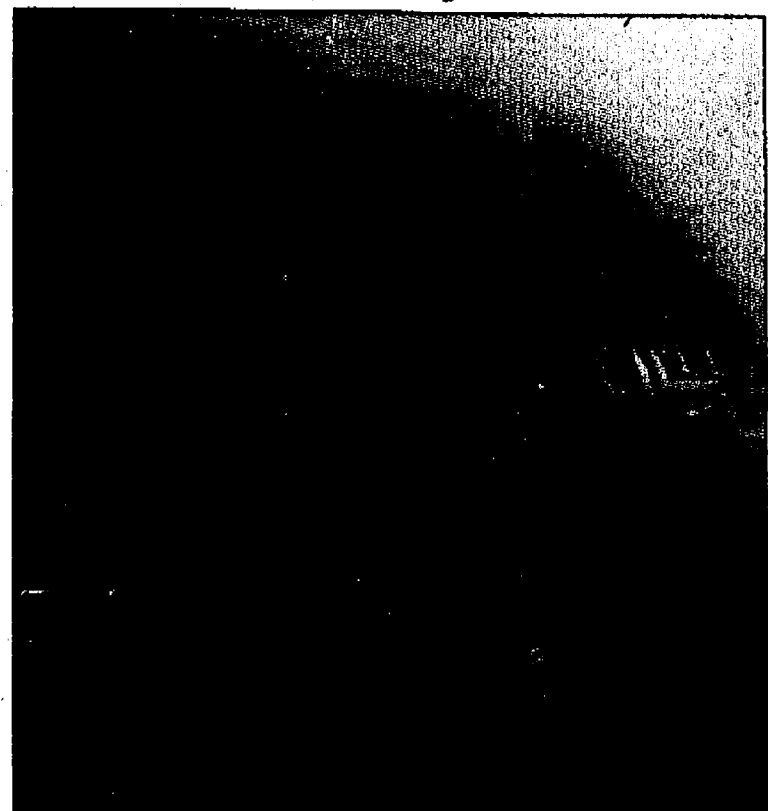
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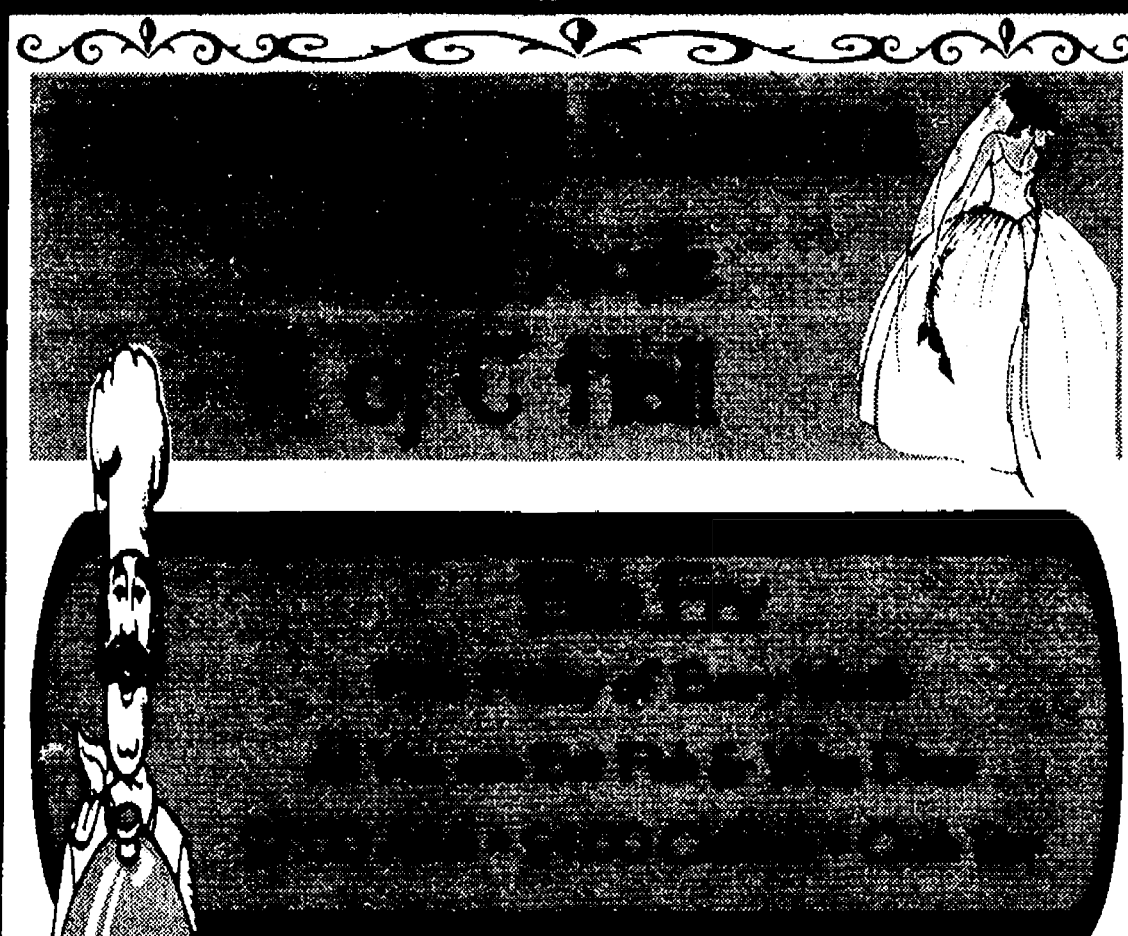
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# Floral Know-How

By Doris A. Black

Whether you carry a single calla lily or a bouquet of white roses, the flowers you choose for your wedding should serve as a symbol of your love. They should be beautiful and dramatic. Before choosing a florist, do some homework and learn the lingo.

Bridal bouquets are typically designed in one of four basic shapes:

- Cascade, in which the flowers fall forward in a pendulous manner.
- Nosegay, the most common choice, in which the flowers form a large, round, upright shape with the stems forming a cone.
- Asymmetrical, a very informal design composed of a collection of blooms in an irregular shape.
- Pomander, a ball of blooms carried by a loop of a ribbon, making a lovely accessory for flower girls.

No matter which style of bouquet

you choose, the flowers may be wired, in which a florist wire is inserted into the upper portion of the flowers and the lower portions of the stems are removed, or hand-tied, in which the whole stems remain and are tied or taped together. Hand-tied bouquets are heavier than wired and generally are not as comfortable to hold.

For a formal wedding ceremony, the bride traditionally carries an elegant all-white bouquet composed of either one type of flower or two or three different types. Most commonly used are roses, tulips, peonies, hydrangeas, orchids, calla lilies or gardenias. For a less formal ceremony, bouquets might contain a mixture of colorful blooms selected to enhance the bride and complement the color scheme of the wedding party.

When choosing the flowers for your bouquet, consider the type of ceremony planned, the location of the ceremony and the style of dress you will be wearing. For example, a formal church wedding requires a more formal bouquet than an informal mountaintop wedding. An elegant ballroom gown should be complemented by a bouquet of proper proportions. This rule applies to all bridal gowns. The bridal bouquet should never outshine the gown. The bouquet should also be proportional to the bride's height. A cascading bouquet may be more appropriate to a tall bride than to one of smaller stature.

Bridesmaid's bouquets are typically smaller than the bride's bouquet. They may match in color but should not be identical. A good florist will vary the bridesmaid's bouquets slightly.

The groom's boutonniere will correspond to the bride's bouquet and the groomsmen to the bridesmaids. Again they should vary slightly so as to not look repetitive.

Corsages have been traditional favorites for mothers of the bride and groom, but small nosegays are also appropriate.

Flowers to enhance the ceremony can be as simple or elaborate as your budget allows. Traditionally for a church ceremony there are altarpieces, aisle arrangements, door decorations and candelabra decorations. Before ordering, find out what your church allows for wedding flowers. Some have strict guidelines. For daytime ceremonies, almost any color combination is magnificent, but for an evening ceremony, an all-white altarpiece really stands out. If you

are tight on funds, you may prefer to keep ceremony florals to a minimum and put the bulk of your floral budget into flowers for the reception, where you'll be spending the most time.

Table centerpieces are the norm at receptions with the largest arrangement at the head table. The florist can help you create elegant arrangements, but many brides like to do this themselves. It saves a little money and is a fun, creative endeavor. If you elect to create your own designs, follow these few simple rules of design. The head table should naturally have the largest arrangement but not so large that it blocks everyone's view. Centerpieces on guest tables may hold various flowers in different containers to help keep the reception lively and fresh. A simple vase tied with ribbon is adequate. Additionally, consider providing candles to enhance a romantic atmosphere at the head table and at guest tables.

Who pays for all these lovely floral arrangements? Typically the bride's family pays for the reception and ceremony florals as well as the bridesmaid's bouquets. The groom typically pays for boutonnieres, corsages and the bride's bouquet. However, this is not set in stone. Often funds from both sides of the family and friends contribute to making the day special.

When selecting a florist, look for a designer with wedding experience. A professional wedding floral designer knows the ins and outs of creating beautiful arrangements for such a special event. They understand the pressures of dealing with nervous brides and will recommend certain flowers based on what types are in season to coordinate with the wedding theme. They know the importance of delivering on time the freshest florals that will last the whole day. Interview several to view previous designs. Discuss your budget and ask the florist for recommendations to help stay within that budget. Call at least two previous clients to establish if they were happy with the service they received. After you hire a professional florist, listen to their suggestions. With all their experience, they know how to enhance the ceremony and reception.

Flowers have long been a wedding tradition. They enhance the look of a church and the throwing of the bouquet is a time-honored tradition. Who wants to break with tradition?



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# The Reception: Feeding the Masses

By Doris A. Black

After the wedding dress and the honeymoon, the most expensive part of a wedding is the reception. Determining the type of reception you will have involves deciding whether or not to have a sit-down dinner, buffet or hors d'oeuvres. Receptions held earlier in the day don't require a full meal and people tend to drink less, so the costs will be lower. Keeping the guest list to a minimum will also help lower costs. The time of day of the reception, the number of guests invited and your budget may ultimately make the decision for you, but selecting the best caterer for the job will determine the final outcome.

The best way to find a competent caterer is by asking around. Ask some recently married couples for recommendations. If the same name pops up, arrange a meeting. A popular caterer will be booked months or even a year in advance, so make your arrangements early. Meet with the caterers on your list to discuss the budget and ask for references. Be sure to contact former clients and ask some specific questions, such as:

1. Did the catering services meet the bride's expectations?
2. Were there any problems?
3. Looking back, would the bride have asked the caterer to do anything differently?

With the answers you receive to

these three questions, you should be able to decide if the caterer is capable of tackling your reception.

The next step is to direct specific questions to the caterer:

1. What types of food would they recommend for the style of reception you've chosen?
2. What are the menu choices for your budget and are special meals available for those with dietary restrictions?
3. How many servers will be present? This number should be based on your final head count.
4. Do they have adequate insurance and health permits? Visit the food preparation site to make sure it is clean and the food looks fresh.
5. How much of a deposit is required? When is the balance due? Is gratuity included in the price? Are there any additional charges you should be aware of? You won't have a final headcount at this time, but you can estimate that around 85% of the guests invited to the wedding and reception will attend.
6. Is the caterer prepared to meet any special needs for your reception, such as those for an outdoor wedding?
7. What type of dinnerware will be used? View the pieces.
8. What about valet parking and a coat check? Are these included or are they extra?
9. What about alcoholic beverages? Does the caterer stock a full

bar? Can you bring your own? What about champagne? Will it flow all night or just for the toast? What is the cost of both?

10. Will the caterer do the setup and cleanup or prepare food only.

Once you've narrowed your search, it's time to focus on the menu and sample the foods. Seafood and beef are the most expensive entrées, so to maximize savings, go for a pasta or chicken dish instead. Keep the side dishes in line with what's in season. The food you sample should be served to you precisely the way it will served to your guests—prepared in the same manner complete with garnishes. Be sure the groom accompanies you for the sampling as he may have additional comments or questions you hadn't thought to ask. Ask if the recipes can be altered, such as omitting nuts if you don't care for them. Remember, you're paying for this, so order food you like. If you are the hot wings and beer type, don't think you have to serve shrimp cocktails and champagne. Ask the caterer if you can take home any leftover food—after all, you've paid for it, so why not ask.

Consider one other element before making a final decision—the caterer's personality. You'll be working closely together, so rapport is important. Hire the caterer who will enhance your wedding both professionally and personally.

## Most Embarrassing Moments

By Doris A. Black

Almost all weddings contain an embarrassing moment or two. The most common include either the bride or groom forgetting their vows, problems with the bridal gown, a member of the wedding party being late or someone getting tipsy at the reception. Most embarrassments are minor, and although mortifying at the time, they can be laughed about later. Here are some embarrassing moments that others have encountered.

A formal church wedding ceremony: The bride unknowingly caught her dress on a nail. With each step, the nail caught a little tighter and the dress tore a little more until finally, the unaware bride stepped up to the officiate near the altar and the whole backside of her skirt tore off. The guests would have had a fine view of her backside had it not been for the quick-thinking maid of honor who casually stepped up behind the bride, lifted the gown and held it in place for the duration of the ceremony.

An outdoor meadow ceremony: The bride looked radiant walking down the aisle, her full-length gown rustling across the ground with each step. Suddenly she toppled over writhing in pain. Her father, at her side, tried to help her to her feet but she'd sprained her ankle when she fell off her high heels. After a short delay to wrap her ankle, the ceremony continued with the bride and groom sitting side by side.

A small country church wedding ceremony: The tiny church was adorned with fresh flowers throughout. As the groom waited for his

bride, he was pestered by a bee. Brushing it aside, he thought nothing of it. Minutes later, the bride arrived, the ceremony began and the bee brought friends. Soon, five, 10, 15 bees buzzed around the small room. Guests grew restless and the bride and groom became distracted as the bees attempted to land on the bride's head to sip the sweet nectar from the flowers in her hair. But it wasn't until the priest was stung that they opted to continue the ceremony outside and let the bees have the church, the headpiece and the flowers to themselves.

A church ceremony: The groom was growing nervous as the best man was late. Time was growing short—where was he?—the groom wondered. Having spilled coffee on his gray tux trousers, the best man and maid of honor were attempting to clean them when unbeknownst to them the wedding ring fell out. Hurrying off to the church, they never noticed it was gone until it was time to give it to the groom. With the ceremony starting momentarily, the groom borrowed his grandmother's engagement ring to give to his bride. Later that day the wedding ring was recovered and all ended well.

A church ceremony in progress on a stormy night: When the priest asked if anyone objected to the marriage, suddenly there was a bright flash of light. The church was plunged into darkness except for the few candles lit by the altar. Everyone looked around, bride and groom included, to see what had happened—was it a joke or a sign from the almighty? As it turned out, it was a bolt of lightning hitting a

transformer that took out the lights for miles around. The ceremony ended by candlelight—how romantic.

A destination wedding: Guests arrived on schedule only to find they had no reservations. The bride, frantic, scrambled to find out what had happened to the reservations she had made. As it turned out, one couple who were unable to attend the wedding at the last minute called to cancel their room, but inadvertently, the hotel cancelled the reservations for the whole group.

A cross-cultural destination wedding reception: The groom, anxious to surprise his bride and impress his new in-laws, attempted a toast in their native language. Halfway through the toast, he began to wonder by the looks on their faces if he had made a grave error but plowed ahead without missing a beat. Indeed, he had inadvertently called his mother-in-law, father-in-law and bride unflattering names. His intentions were honorable though and all was forgiven.

A wedding reception: The groom approached his mother-in-law to ask her to dance. As she rose from the table, her napkin fell to the floor. He, being a gentleman, bent down to pick it up. As he rose, the tablecloth brushed the top of his head and made his toupee askew. The dance began and moments later, the bride cut in and the couple quickly danced their way to a private corner where an adjustment took place.

If at your wedding, you drop the ring or trip over your own feet, don't feel too bad. You're not alone.

Get a written contract from the caterer outlining specifically what services will be provided. The contract should include all the details you've agreed upon: how many food stations will be used, how many servers per station or per table for a sit-down dinner, menu-specific items, time and date of the reception, and costs, including deposit amount and balance due. Both members of the agreement must sign the contract in order for it to be valid.

Now that you've done all of this, don't think you're finished yet. Touch base with your caterer in the week leading up to your wedding to make sure they have your reception in the front of their mind. Double-check all the arrangements and ask if they have any questions. Then when the day finally comes and the ceremony is over, relax and enjoy the reception you worked so hard to plan.



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## Wedding Day Essentials: The Perfect Gift

By Doris A. Black

As the maid of honor or mother of the bride, you want your gift for the bride to be extra special. You may think the best gift is something practical like a picture frame for the wedding photo or something for the house, but the best thing you can give the bride is peace of mind on her wedding day.

As you know, the wedding day is filled with worries for the bride. It's only natural for her to be anxious about things she has no control over, but you can help eliminate some of her stress by preparing for emergencies. Make your gift an emergency basket of essential items for the day.

Here are some suggestions of items to include.

- Makeup bag. Choose a nice decorative makeup bag large enough to hold the necessary touch-up supplies for the day, including lipstick, mascara, powder and blush.

- Toothbrush bag. While you're looking for a makeup bag, pick up a small bag for toothbrush and toothpaste, so the bride can freshen up at the reception. It should have a plastic liner and include a travel-size toothbrush and toothpaste.

- Small hand mirror. Add in one of these to go along with the makeup

and toothbrush.

- Moisturizer. Tuck in a small bottle of lotion to soothe the hands, as the bride will be shaking many on her wedding day.

- Pair of hosiery. You might not think an extra pair is necessary with a full-length gown and it may not be. But you don't want the bride to have a big run when the groom removes her garter. Even if the bride doesn't use them, a bridesmaid may.

- Travel-size tissues. These are especially useful for teary brides and she can hand them out to others as well.

- Travel-size hair spray. The bride may need this for throughout-the-day touch-ups. Don't forget a comb and brush.

- Glue. The bride may need this in case a flower needs to be reattached to a headpiece or a sequin to the veil.

- Nail file. Include a nice big one for last-minute touch-ups or broken nails for either the bride or the bridesmaids.

- Sewing kit. Include thread to match not only the bridal gown, but also the color of the bridesmaid gowns and groomsmen's tuxedos. It seems that straps break and buttons pop at the most inopportune times. Don't forget the needles, and maybe

some safety pins, too.

- Small notepad and pen. Include some type of small notebook or pad of paper for the bride to jot down last-minute thoughts or a "To Do" list.

- Miscellaneous items. Make sure to include rubber bands and zip-top plastic baggies.

- Wedding day breakfast plan. Plan on bringing the bride some breakfast on her wedding day. Even if she says she doesn't usually eat breakfast, bring her a croissant and orange juice. Skipping breakfast is like fasting for 18-24 hours (from the time of her last meal until the reception). She'll be under a lot of stress and on her feet most of the day, so insist she eat a little something.

All of these items may not be needed on the big day, but it's better to be prepared. To make a nice presentation, place the essentials in an attractive basket or small carry-on style piece of luggage that can be taken to the church and reception. The bride may decide to use it for the honeymoon, too.

Give the bride the gift of peace of mind by being prepared and helping to make her wedding day as stress-free as possible.

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## Wedding Ensemble Checklist

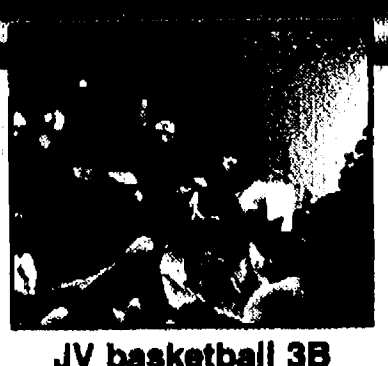
Use this checklist to ensure you have all the items needed for the perfect wedding day celebration!

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Invitations           | <input type="checkbox"/> Envelopes           | <input type="checkbox"/> Bows, Ribbons & Wraps |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Announcements         | <input type="checkbox"/> Thank you Notes     | <input type="checkbox"/> Decorative Seals      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Printed Envelopes     | <input type="checkbox"/> Note Cards          | <input type="checkbox"/> Pew Cards             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lined Inner Envelopes | <input type="checkbox"/> Save-the-Date Cards | <input type="checkbox"/> Wedding Programs      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reception Enclosures  | <input type="checkbox"/> At home Cards       | <input type="checkbox"/> Bookmarks             |
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JV basketball 3B

► Tuesday: Grayling wins league game at Boyne City 66-53

VARSITY BOYS  
BASKETBALL

► Friday: Charlevoix wins conference shoot-out 102-99 at GHS

# Rayders 102, Vikings 99

**Grayling moves to 3-2 in league play with 1 win, 1 loss last week**

In a fast-paced, high-scoring varsity boys basketball contest at a packed GHS gymnasium last Friday, the #4-ranked Charlevoix Rayders edged Grayling 102-99 in a Lake Michigan Conference battle.

The contest was close all the way through. Charlevoix led 23-21 after one quarter and had a 50-47 advantage at halftime. Going into the fourth period, the Rayders led 76-73.

With about five minutes left in the fourth quarter, Charlevoix led 85-82. A pair of free throws by Gibson Tobin pulled Grayling within one, 85-84, at the 4:52 mark.

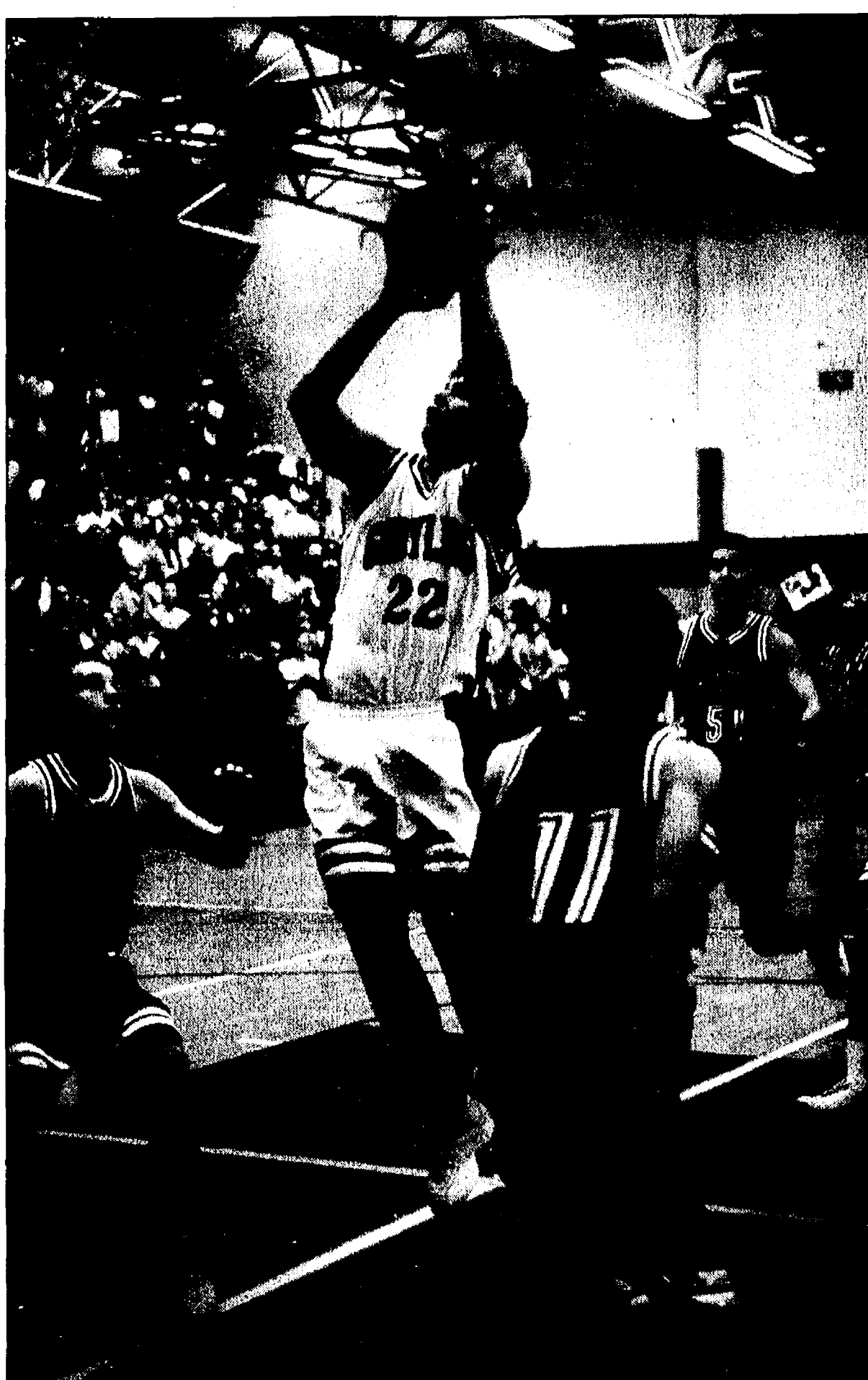
At the other end, Charlevoix shot and missed, and Joe Lange grabbed the rebound. The possession ended with a basket inside by Lange, which gave Grayling a one-point lead (86-85) with 4:22 remaining.

Two free throws by Charlevoix put the Rayders back up by one. Two free throws by Josh Hinkle on a one and one opportunity gave GHS a one-point edge. Charlevoix went for three and missed, and Tobin came down with the rebound. Grayling finished the possession with a drive by Tobin. GHS led 90-87 with 3:33 left in the fourth quarter.

Charlevoix scored on a put-back to pull within one. The Vikings were called for a foul on the rebound try at the other end, and Charlevoix hit both free throws on the one and one chance to go back up by one.

Continued on Page 2B

See "CHARLEVOIX..."



Photos by Caleb Casey

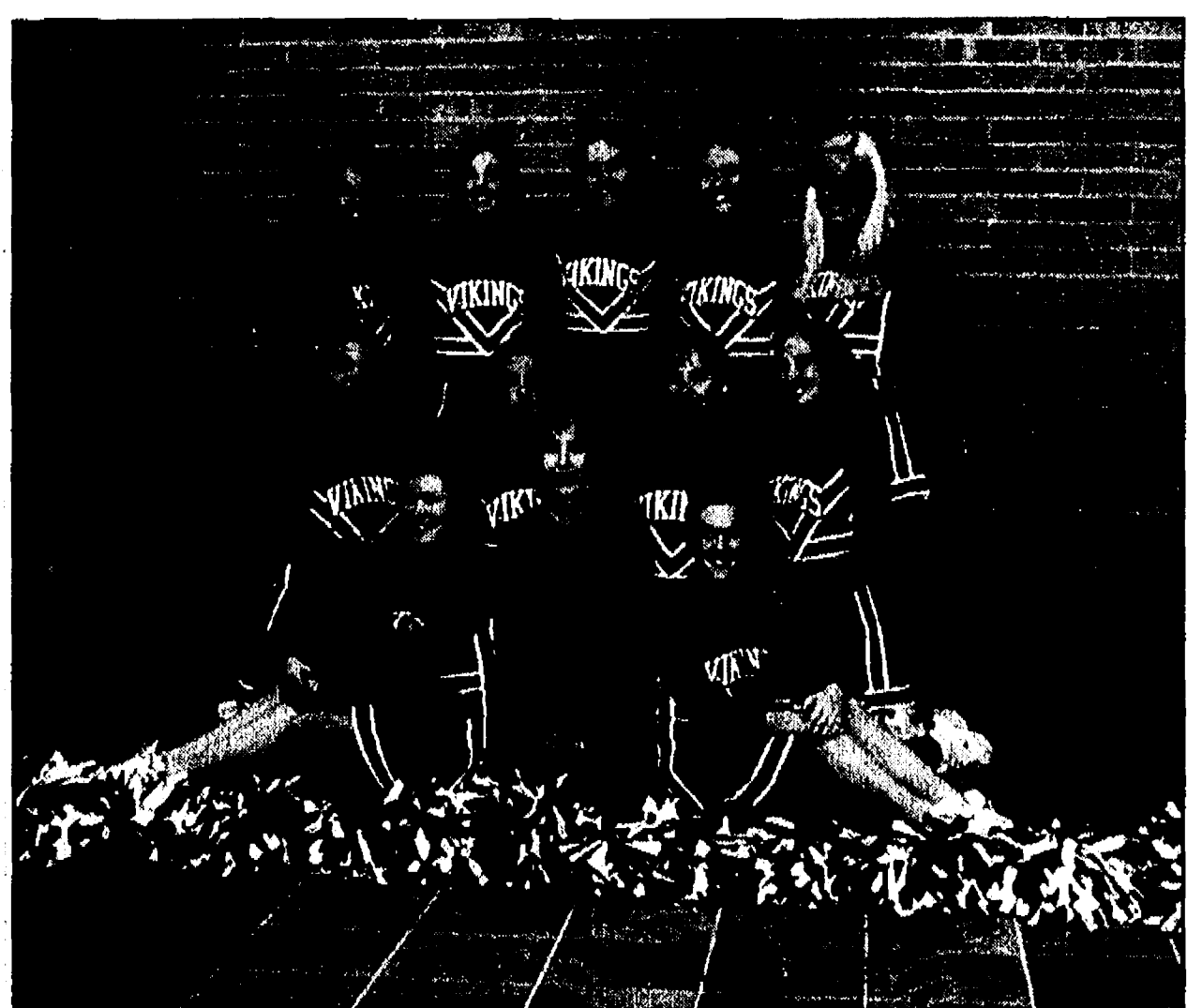
Roy Czapek goes up for a shot underneath the basket in Friday night's varsity boys basketball game at GHS.



Gibson Tobin dishes the ball off to a teammate in last week's game vs. the Charlevoix Rayders.

## Grayling High School Cheerleading

Varsity Cheer Squad



The 2003-04 GHS varsity cheerleading team: (front, left to right) Hayley Boardman, Coach Gail Belcher, Joni Welch; (middle, left to right) Samantha LeMaster, Nicole Reyes, Lindsey Johns, Rachel Brunell; (back, left to right) Jamie Pinkelman, Chelsea Green, Shantina Jacobs, Jenny Ringle, Brittney Howard. Not pictured: Brittney Bennett.

Junior Varsity Cheer Squad



The 2003-04 GHS junior varsity cheerleading team: (front, left to right) Danielle Lighthall, Justine Tozer, Angie Martella, Chelsea Newberry, Brittney Daniner; (back, left to right) Coach Rebecca Brown, Sarah Lange, Jordyn Nadeau, Arica Hart, Melissa McDaniel, Amanda Moran. Not pictured: Amber Florian.



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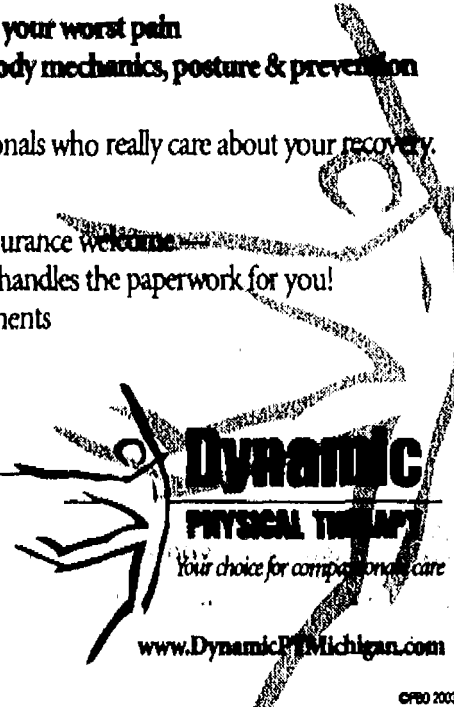
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# Charlevoix wins shoot-out 102-99

Continued from Page 1B

Tobin dished off to Roy Czapke inside, who scored the basket and drew the foul. With the free throw, Czapke completed the three-point play, giving Grayling a 93-91 advantage with 3:01 left in the game.

Charlevoix answered with a three-pointer to re-take the lead. The Rayders scored one of two free throws on their next possession. Grayling missed both free throws on a trip to the line, and Charlevoix scored one of two to go up by three, 96-93, with 2:10 remaining.

Grayling turned the ball over and Charlevoix capitalized with a shot inside. The Vikings went for three, missed, tried for a put-back, missed, and Charlevoix grabbed the rebound. Grayling fouled. The Rayders hit both free throws to lead 100-93 with 1:15 left in the game.

Charlevoix was called for a foul but Grayling missed both free throws. The ball ended up out of bounds, last touched by Charlevoix. The Vikings got the ball in to Travis Helsel, who shot from three-point range. The ball went in, pulling GHS within four, 100-96, with 50 seconds left in the contest.

Grayling got the ball back and scored on a put-back by Helsel. With 29 seconds left, GHS trailed by two, 100-98.

At Charlevoix's end, Bobby Starks saved the ball from going out of bounds with a pass to Helsel at the baseline. Charlevoix fouled. Tobin hit one of two at the line, pulling Grayling within one, 100-99, with 12 seconds remaining.

After the Charlevoix in-bounds play, Grayling quickly fouled. Charlevoix hit both free throws. Down by three, Grayling got the ball in and down the court. The Vikings went for three, but the ball was deflected and the shot fell short. Grayling looked for a foul call on the play, but didn't get one. (A foul on the three-

pointer would have put Grayling at the free throw line for three shots, enough to potentially tie the game.)

With 0.6 seconds remaining, it was Charlevoix's ball. The Rayders got the ball in and held it, and that was it. Charlevoix won 102-99.

"Our kids played step for step with the #4-ranked team in the state of Michigan. I was extremely pleased with the way we attacked their press and moved the ball offensively. We did a great job of locating the open man and putting our guys into a position so that they could be successful. Our court presence on the offensive end was exceptional," Coach Rich Moffit said.

"Pressure free throws hurt us. We have to be able to knock down free throws if we are going to reach our team goals," Coach Moffit said. "This is a positive step, but we need to finish games and win. We are improving and practice time and effort is very critical at this point of the year."

"Gibson Tobin played his best game of his career," Coach Moffit added. "We also got some gutsy performances from a number of players."

Tobin finished with a game-high 37 points, seven steals, and six rebounds. Czapke scored 19 points and Josh Hinkle added 10. Lange scored 10 points and had a team-high four blocks.

On Tuesday, the Vikings won a conference game at Boyne City 66-53. Grayling led 34-26 at the half and had a 49-40 edge going into the fourth quarter. With a 17-13 fourth period, Grayling sealed the victory.

"It was a good game on the road. Defensively, we did a num-



Photos by Caleb Casey

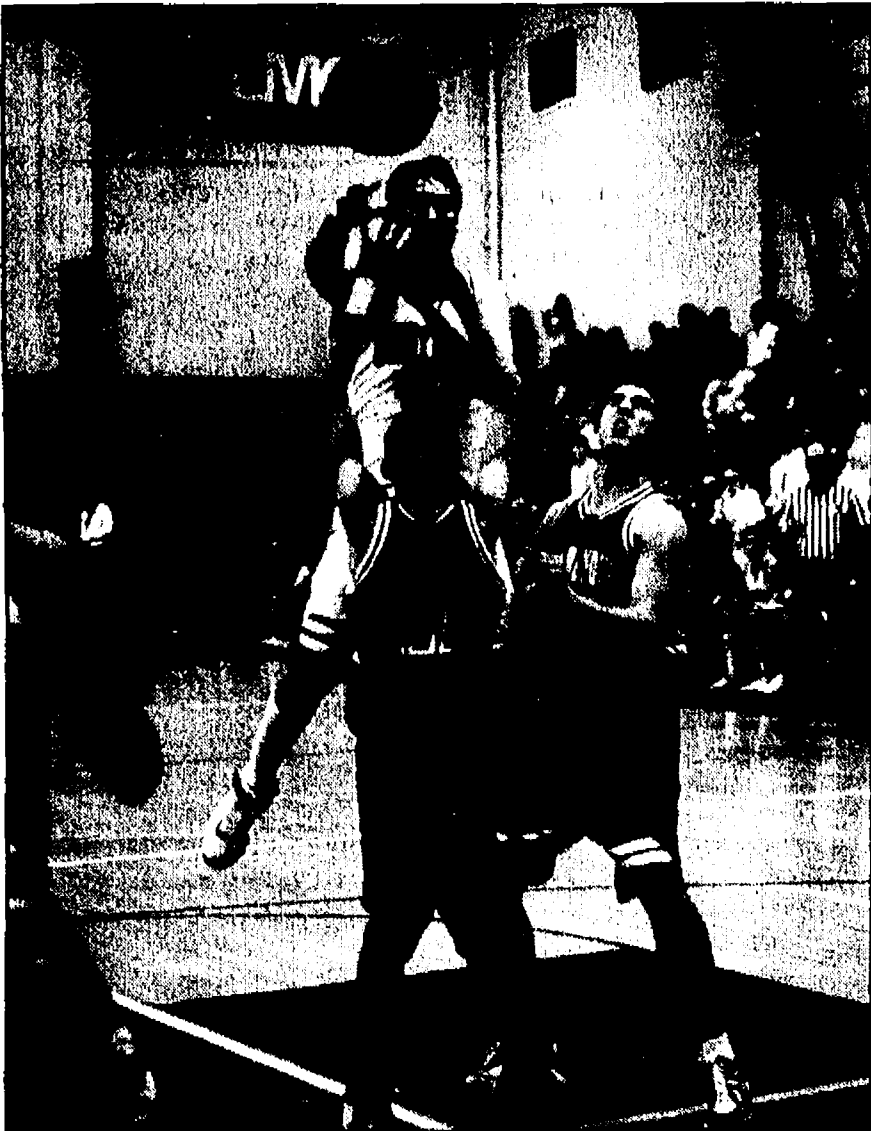
Josh Hinkle goes up for a lay-up in Friday night's game vs. Charlevoix at GHS.

ber of positive things in the second and third quarters. Offensively, we struggled to make short shots," Coach Moffit said.

Leading scorers for Grayling vs. Boyne City were Czapke

(17), Tobin (15), and Lange (10). Including last week's games, the Vikings are 3-2 in the Lake Michigan Conference and 5-4 overall.

On Friday, the Vikings play at East Jordan.



Greg Morrill passes off to a teammate.



Ryan Schmidt shoots from three-point range.



Andy Strohpaul drives the baseline vs. the Rayders on Friday.

## GMS BASKETBALL

Grayling Middle School's 8th grade (white) team recently finished its 2003-04 season with an 8-1 overall record.

The squad finished its season

with victories over East Jordan, Boyne City, Traverse City St. Francis, and Boyne City again.

"Jason Wilson played tough and brought a great deal of inten-

sity the second half of the season. We were led by the leadership of Isaac VanNuck, Matt Letts, and Reid Holzbaue," Coach Larry Mead said.

## Surprise Your Valentine

Valentine's Day is Friday, February 14th  
to appear in the February 22nd issue

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# JV team wins at Boyne, falls to Rayders

## Vikings unable to stop late surge by Charlevoix in Friday's game

In games last week, the GHS junior varsity boys basketball team won at Boyne City on Tuesday but lost a close game at home vs. Charlevoix on Friday.

Against Charlevoix, Grayling got off to a strong start and led 22-12 after one quarter of play. The Vikings had a 13-point advantage at halftime, 39-26.

The Rayders chipped away at Grayling's lead in the second half, and cut their deficit to single digits with about four minutes left in the third period.

A three-point play by Eli VanNuck put the Vikings back up by 11 at the 3:19 mark. Two free throws by VanNuck extended Grayling's lead to 13. Charlevoix scored the next two baskets to pull within nine. With six seconds left, VanNuck scored the last basket of the third period on a shot inside on a pass from Zach Dean.

The Vikings led by 11 going into the fourth quarter.

A jumper by VanNuck put Grayling ahead by 13. Charlevoix scored 11 unanswered points to pull within two, 50-48, with 5:12 remaining in regulation.

A lay-up by Ron Johnston put Grayling up by four. Charlevoix answered with a jump shot to pull back within two. A short jumper by Johnston put Grayling's lead back at four. The Rayders scored to pull back within two.

A shot inside by Dean on a nice pass from Zac Baker put GHS up by four. Two free throws brought Charlevoix back within two. A shot inside by Reagan Schmidt on a pass from Baker put Grayling up by four.

A put-back following a free throw miss pulled Charlevoix within two. Grayling scored two on a shot inside by Baker. VanNuck stole the ball and scored the lay-up to put GHS up



Photos by Caleb Casey

Eli VanNuck goes in for a lay-up against the Charlevoix Rayders on Friday night.

by six, 62-56, with 3:02 remaining.

Charlevoix turned the ball over, got it back with a steal, and scored a lay-up to cut Grayling's lead to four. Charlevoix fouled and Grayling missed both free throws. VanNuck stole the ball, but Charlevoix forced a tie-up on the possession and the arrow favored the Rayders. Charlevoix converted with a shot inside to pull within two, 62-60, at the 1:51 mark.

The Rayders came up with a steal and scored a shot inside to tie the game at 62-62. Charlevoix got the ball back and scored a jumper, giving the Rayders a 64-

62 lead. Grayling answered with a jumper by Johnston. With 57 seconds left in the fourth quarter, the game was tied at 64-64.

Charlevoix shot, rebounded the ball, missed a second shot, rebounded, and a foul was called on Grayling. The Rayders hit the first free throw but missed the second. Charlevoix rebounded the ball and scored a shot inside to go up by three.

Grayling moved the ball down the court but the shot missed and Charlevoix rebounded. The Rayders tossed a deep pass down the floor and scored as the final seconds ticked away. Charlevoix won by a final score of 69-64.

"It was a great game," Coach Butch Hayes said. "We are very disappointed by the loss, but if we can continue to play with that kind of energy, we will be successful."

VanNuck was the leading scorer for Grayling with 23 points. Johnston added 12 and Reagan Schmidt scored 10. Ryan Feldhauser, Baker, Mike Boylan, Jim Boylan, Dean, and Zeke Hayes also scored for the Vikings in the contest.

On Tuesday, the Vikings won at Boyne City 53-43.

"We played with more intensity on defense, which created more scoring opportunities. It was a good team effort on both ends of the court," Coach Hayes said.

VanNuck led Grayling with 15 points. Schmidt had nine points and Baker finished with eight. Feldhauser, Dean, Johnston, Jim Boylan, Mike Boylan, and Hayes also scored for Grayling.

The Vikings play at East Jordan on Friday, January 30.



(Left) Ryan Feldhauser goes up for a fast break lay-up in Friday night's game vs. Charlevoix. (Right) Ron Johnston drives to the basket for Grayling.



Reagan Schmidt takes a jump shot for Grayling.

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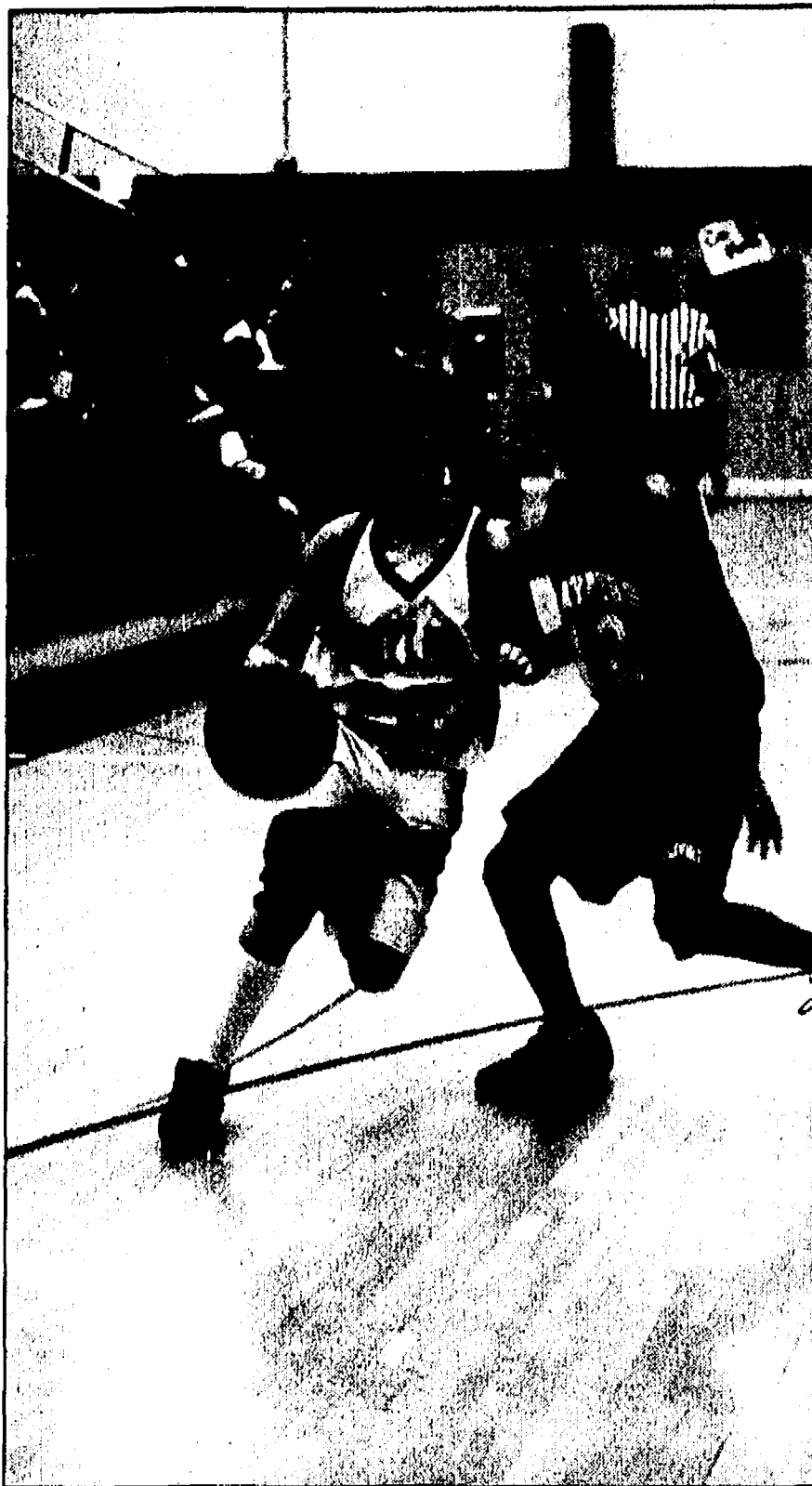
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## Rayders win freshman game 73-40



Photos by Caleb Casey

Scot Olson handles the ball for Grayling High School's 9th grade boys basketball team in last Friday's home game against the Charlevoix Rayders. Charlevoix won the game by a final score of 73-40.



Terry Fraley takes a shot from inside the key in last week's game vs. Charlevoix.

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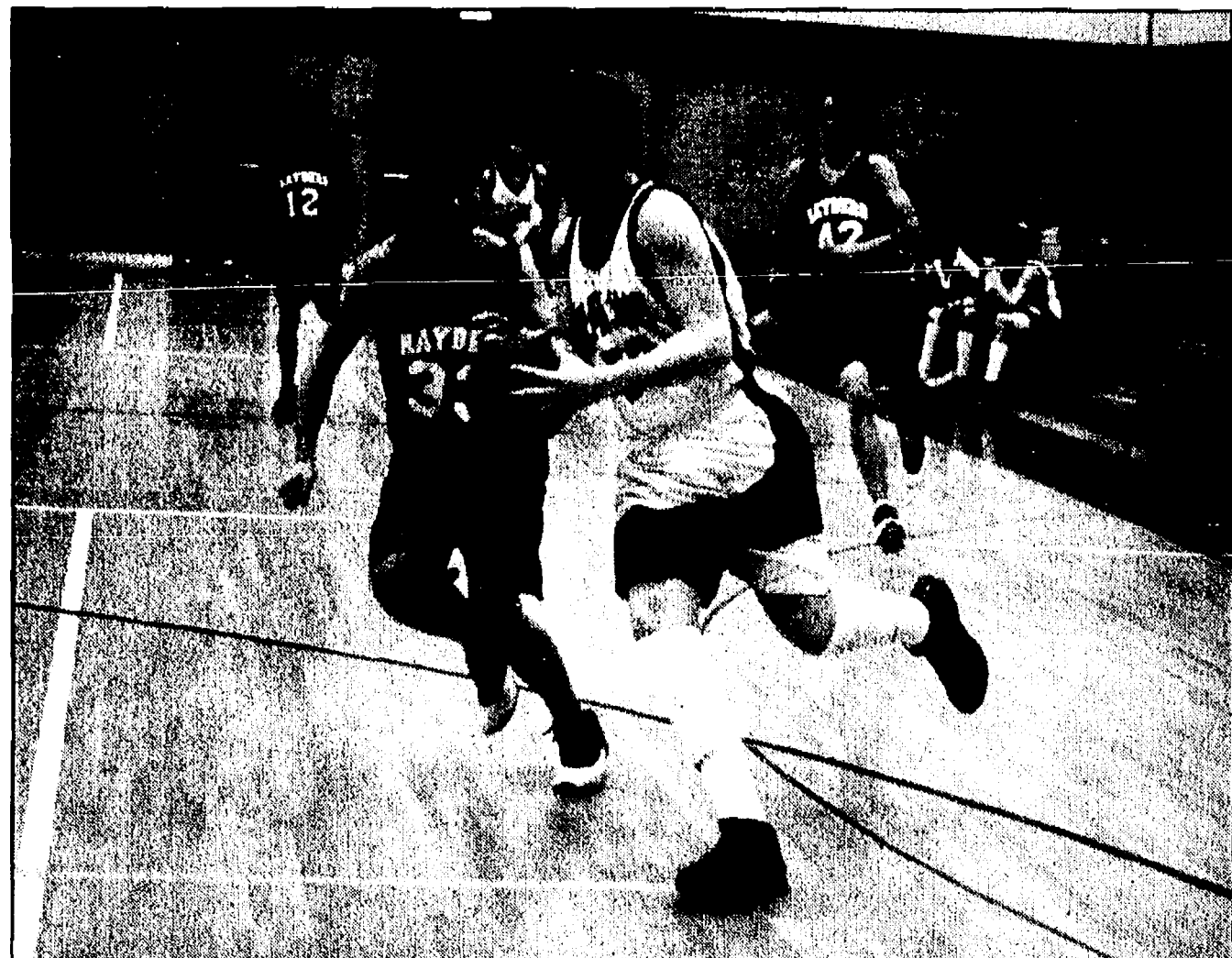
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Jeremiah Bootz drives toward the basket in Friday night's freshman boys basketball contest at GHS.



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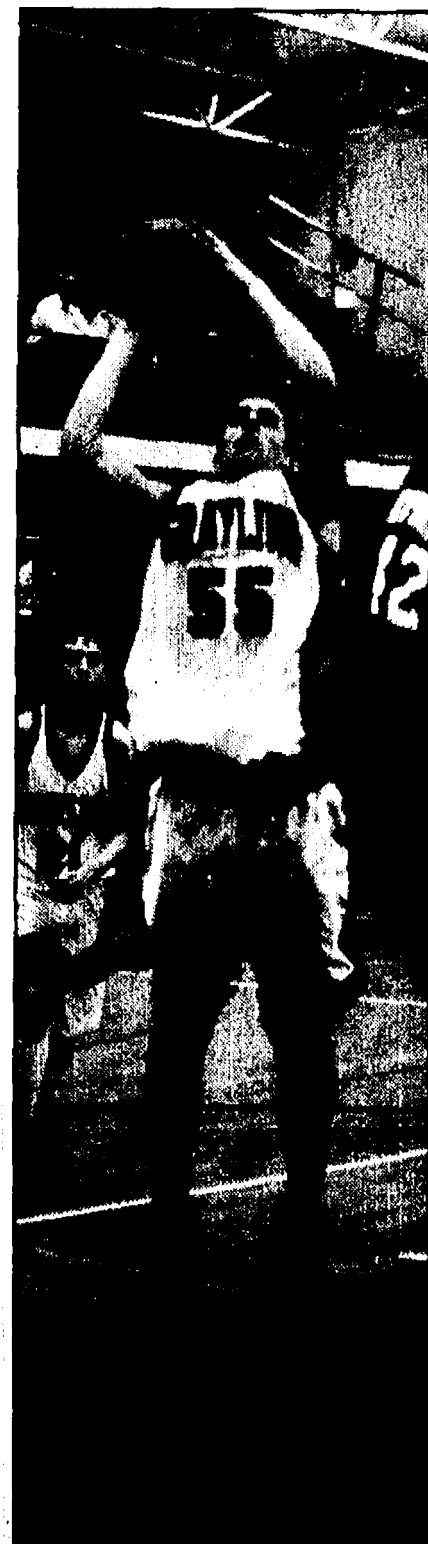
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Nick Parkinson takes an inside shot against the Rayders.



## Snowmobiling: Grayling has a lot to offer

When it comes to snowmobiling, the Grayling area has a lot to offer, including well-marked routes on groomed trails, a central location that links to routes that lead to all ends of the state, and scenic views of northern Michigan. For those reasons and more, thousands of snowmobile riders head to Crawford County each year for trips they can relive long after the last snow is off the trail.

Located in the center of northern Michigan, Crawford County features more than 200 miles of groomed trails within its boundaries alone, said Keith Miles, board member of the AuSable Valley Snowmobile Association (AVSA) and president of the Grayling Visitors Bureau. There are 16 motels that are members of the Grayling Visitors Bureau, 14 of which are open year-round and are "sled-friendly," he said.

The AVSA partners with other groups to groom trails all winter and also publishes an annually-updated map that shows snowmobile trails in Crawford County and parts of Roscommon, Kalkaska, Ogemaw, Antrim, and Otsego counties. Trails are clearly marked, as are locations for gasoline and points of interest. On the back side, numbers correspond to locations of restaurants, motels, and other area businesses that cater to snowmobilers. And, while the map has a \$1.50 face value, Miles says most motel operators offer it free to guests, as do many other county businesses.

Visitors can also view trails at the Grayling Visitors Bureau's website: [www.grayling-mi.com](http://www.grayling-mi.com).

"All of the trails are signed and numbered so well that if you're ever concerned about getting lost, that's not an issue," Miles said. "Another unique thing about Crawford County is the predominance of two-track trails that are also legal to ride on. There are hundreds of miles of those and with a map like ours and a little advice from your motel operator, you can get out and away from the weekend crowds."

Miles estimates close to 70 percent of the county is state and federal land. "We're finding quite a few guests returning because we turned them on to those trails and they love them," he said.

Designated trails are groomed six times per week once there is sufficient snow.



Snowmobiling in Crawford County offers well-marked routes, groomed trails, a central location with links to other areas, and scenic views.

The biggest departure trailhead is located just west of Grayling off of M-72. From there, routes radiate both north and south to tie with others that run in nearly every direction. Here's a look at a few ways snowmobilers can ride in Crawford County snow this winter:

- If you're a crowd lover, come on weekends, and usually you'll find plenty of company at the M-72 parking lot, Miles said. Weekdays are less crowded.

- For a scenic ride that will give you a taste of the area's vast forestland, head north through stretches of beautiful hardwoods and pines near the banks of the Manistee River to the Blue Bear Trail that heads west, crossing the Manistee River on Cameron Bridge Road. From there, you can point your sled towards Kalkaska or north towards Starvation Lake.

- If you're looking for more solitude, head for the Lovells Trail off Lewiston Grade Road. It meanders along an old railroad grade northeast to Lovells, where you can fuel up your body and your sled, and continue north to Gaylord, or east to Lewiston, or south to Mio, or even St. Helen and the West Branch area. On a typical trip, riders can head north to Gaylord from Lovells, then head south to return to Grayling for a 60-plus-mile loop. There are many areas snowmobilers can "free range" through hundreds of acres of National Guard

land open to riding, Miles added.

- Riders up for longer jaunts can head to areas like Atlanta, Hillman, the Boardman and Jordan river valleys and Indian River and be back to Grayling at sunset.

The Grayling Visitors Bureau's website provides regularly-updated, accurate trail condition reports and even offers free e-mailed reports to those riders who sign up, Miles said.

"Our trail reports come direct from our groomer drivers and it doesn't get better than that. We take pride in giving out very accurate information and, if anything, we're conservative with our reports," Miles said.

There are dozens of great restaurants to choose from in the Grayling area and weekend entertainment is available.

The Grayling Visitors Bureau reminds snowmobilers to ride safely, responsibly, and avoid alcohol on the trail. Alcohol affects judgment and can contribute to hypothermia. Always

carry a tool kit, trail maps, waterproof matches, cell phone or GPS unit, emergency food, and an extra key. Use extreme caution when crossing lakes and rivers. Always travel with a buddy and let friends know where you will be and when you will return.

In the event of an emergency, the AVSA maintains an Emergency Trail Location System throughout Crawford County. Signs designating the route you are on, followed by a location number, are at all road crossings and along the trails. They're matched with GPS coordinates that allow Crawford County emergency services to find you. In an emergency, dial 911 and tell the operator you are in Crawford County and give them the number on the sign.

For more on accommodations and other things to see and do in the Grayling area, contact the Grayling Visitors Bureau at (800) 937-8837 or online at: [www.grayling-mi.com](http://www.grayling-mi.com)

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## MEN'S 30+ BASKETBALL LEAGUE

Scott McNamara Ford . . . 3-0  
Spike's . . . . . 2-1  
HLM . . . . . 1-1  
Holiday Inn . . . . . 0-2  
Mercy Family Practice . . . 0-2  
Spikes 51, Krey 18, Potter 11,  
Thompson 8, Doremire 6, J.  
Gardiner 4, T. Gardiner 4,  
Holiday Inn 46, Mertes 17, Dean

14, Madill 6, Smith 4, Sanders 3,  
Weiler 2.  
Scott McNamara Ford 81, Ewalt  
30, Church Jr. 15, Patterson 15,  
Schmitz 12, Wycoff 6, Church  
Sr. 3.  
HLM 35, Dandy 9, Ruddy 6,  
Hull 6, Davis 6, Kirmo 2, Tobin  
2, Grant 2, Johnston 2.

## GRA BASKETBALL

The Grayling Recreation Authority Girls Basketball League opened its game schedule with two matches at Grayling Middle School on Saturday, January 24.

In the first contest, the Sparks defeated the Storm in a close game, 35-32.

In game two, the Comets beat the Shock 31-16.

The league's next games will be held at the GMS gym on Saturday, January 31, starting at 10 a.m. Spectators are welcome.

For more information, check out GRA's website: [www.hansonhills.org](http://www.hansonhills.org)

## POOL LEAGUE

**Men's Standings**

Legion . . . . . 36  
Sawmill Fun . . . . . 25  
Sawmill Table Runners . . . 30  
Riverside . . . . . 16  
Plaza . . . . . 27

Ole Barn . . . . . 29  
Frederic Inn . . . . . 27  
Sawmill Last Minute Men . . 26  
8 Ball Runs: Ray (Sawmill Fun), Chris, (Sawmill LMM-2).

## POOL LEAGUE

**Women's Standings**  
1-19-2004

Frederic Inn . . . . . 121  
Gray Rock . . . . . 96  
Legion . . . . . 91  
Plaza . . . . . 118

Sawmill I . . . . . 79  
Sawmill II . . . . . 144  
5 Ball Runs: Patsey (Sawmill II),  
6 Ball Runs: Patsey (Sawmill II),  
Jill (Plaza).

Do we think alike or what?

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# STATE OF MICHIGAN JUDICIAL DISTRICT 46TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION/POSTING AND NOTICE OF ACTION

204 WEST MICHIGAN AVENUE  
GRAYLING, MICHIGAN 49738  
989-348-2841

Case No. 03-6184 CH  
Warbler's Hideaway Association  
David R. Sabin (P19822)  
Attorney for Plaintiffs  
115 Michigan Avenue  
Grayling, MI 49738  
989-348-5588

Allen and Dawn Bastien, Vivian C. Buckley, Joey Harrell, Glen C. Mast, Joe McKean, Karen Rasey, E. Allen Schmidlapp, Raymond Wise, Thomas Withbrodt

TO: All Defendants  
IT IS ORDERED:

1. You are being sued by plaintiff in this court to foreclose liens against your real estate by plaintiff for dues, assessments and reimbursement of taxes paid by Plaintiff. You must file your answer or take other action permitted by law in this court at the court address above on or before February 25, 2004. If you fail to do so, a default judgment may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint filed in this case.

Dated: January 21, 2004  
Judge Honorable Alton T. Davis (P24472).

-29-5-12

## Notice Of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Margaret Rita Pedrotte and A/K/A Margaret Pedrotte, a protected person, original mortgagor(s), to Citizens Bank, Mortgagee, dated July 31, 1998, and recorded on August 26, 1998 in Liber 461 on Page 403, in Crawford County records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Fifteen Thousand Five Hundred Fifty-Four And 58/100 Dollars (\$15,554.58), including interest at 9% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the Front door of the County building in Grayling at 10:00 AM, on February 11, 2004.

Said premises are situated in Township of Lovells, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as: The East 1/2 of the East 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4, Section 29, Town 28 North, Range 2 West. (also being known as Parcel D)

The redemption period shall be 12 months from the date of such sale.

Dated: January 8, 2004

For more information, please call:

FC J 248.593.1311  
Trott & Trott, P.C.  
Attorneys For Citizens Bank  
30400 Telegraph Rd Ste 200  
Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822  
File #007933F01

-8-15-22-29

## Notice of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

Peter M. Schneiderman & Associates, P.C., is attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Please contact our office at (248) 539-7400 if you are in active military duty.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by: Heather Gorski, a married woman and Helmut Fritz, a married man to The Huntington National Bank, successor by merger to Empire National Bank, Mortgagee, dated May 19, 2000 and recorded on July 12, 2000 in Liber 0511 on Page 311, Crawford County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of thirty one thousand six hundred forty seven and 48/100 dollars (\$31,647.48), including interest at 9.75% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the front door to the County Building in Grayling,

Michigan at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on February 25, 2003.

Said premises are situated in the City of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan and are described as:

Lot 16, Wakely Woods Subdivision  
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale unless determined abandoned in accordance with 1948CL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: January 16, 2004  
The Huntington National Bank,  
Successor by merger to Empire National Bank

Peter M. Schneiderman & Associates, P.C., 30300 Northwestern Highway, Suite 222, Farmington Hills, Michigan 48334.  
-22-29-5-12-19

## Notice Of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Maynard L. Kirk, III, a single man, original mortgagor(s), to Homestead USA, Inc., Mortgagee, dated September 29, 1999, and recorded on October 12, 1999 in Liber 492 on Page 541, and assigned by mesne assignments to First Nationwide Mortgage Corporation, a Delaware Corporation as assignee by an assignment dated March 2, 2000 recorded on April 26, 2000 in Liber 506 on Page 576, in Crawford County records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Forty-Six Thousand Three Hundred Sixty-Eight And 07/100 Dollars (\$46,368.07), including interest at 8.5% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the Front door of the County building in Grayling at 10:00 AM, on February 18, 2004.

Said premises are situated in Township of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as: Lot 10, Wakeley Woods Subdivision, Township of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, according to the recorded plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 3 of Plats, Page 18, Crawford County Records.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: January 15, 2004

For more information, please call:

FC D 248.593.1309  
Trott & Trott, P.C.  
Attorneys For CitiMortgage, Inc. as successor in interest to First Nationwide Mortgage Corporation, a Delaware Corporation  
30400 Telegraph Rd Ste 200  
Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822  
File #008312F01

-15-22-29-5

## Notice Of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Ricky T. Egan, a single man, original mortgagor(s), to The Mortgage Store, Inc., Mortgagee, dated April 13, 2001, and recorded on May 30, 2001 in Liber 537 on Page 473, and assigned by said Mortgagee to Flagstar Bank, FSB as assignee by an assignment dated April 13, 2001 recorded on May 30, 2001 in Liber 537 on Page 492, in Crawford County records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Eighty-Seven Thousand Two Hundred Twenty-Five And 78/100 Dollars (\$87,225.78), including interest at 8.25% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the Front door of the County building in Grayling at 10:00 AM, on February 18, 2004.

Said premises are situated in Township of South Branch, Crawford County,

Michigan, and are described as: Parcel A: Part of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 27, Town 25 North, Range 2 West, South Branch Township, Crawford County, Michigan described as beginning on the East line of said Section 27 at a point which is South 00 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West 1027.80 feet along said East line from the East 1/4 corner of said Section 27; thence continuing along said East line of Section 27 South 00 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West 305.00 feet to the Southeast corner of the North 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4 of said Section; thence North 88 degrees 58 minutes 00 seconds West 370.00 feet along the South line of the North 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4 of said Section; thence North 12 degrees 58 minutes 30 seconds East 311.70 feet; thence South 88 degrees 58 minutes 00 seconds East 300.00 feet to the point of beginning.

TOGETHER WITH a private drive easement for ingress and egress and for the installation and maintenance of public utilities over that part of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 27, Town 25 North, Range 2 West, described as a strip of land 66.0 feet in width and lying 33.0 feet either side of a centerline which is described as beginning on the East line of said Section 27 at a point which is South 00 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West 1027.80 feet along said East line from East 1/4 corner of said Section 27; thence North 88 degrees 58 minutes 00 seconds West 300.00 feet; thence South 12 degrees 58 minutes 30 seconds West 277.94 feet; thence North 88 degrees 58 minutes 00 seconds West 1954.50 feet along a line which is 33.0 feet North of and parallel with the South line of the North 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4 of said Section to the point of ending of this centerline description.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: January 15, 2004

For more information, please call:

FC W 248.593.1312  
Trott & Trott, P.C.  
Attorneys For Flagstar Bank, FSB  
30400 Telegraph Rd Ste 200  
Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822  
File #008537F01

-15-22-29-5

## RECORD OF CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

### MEETING HELD ON THE 8TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2003 GRAYLING, MICHIGAN

I. Meeting called to order by Mayor Ferrigan at 7:30 P.M.

II. Members Present: McClain, Ferrigan, Moshier, Akers, Palmer

Members Absent: None

Also in Attendance: Allen Lowe, City Manager, Michele Moshier, City Clerk, Caleb Casey, Ilene Geiss-Wilson, Carl Lehto, Dave Sabin, Doug Meroney, Tom Wellman, Duane Brooks

III. Public Hearing. None.

IV. Approval of Consent Agenda.

City Council Rules

2004 Boards & Commissions Meetings

Amended 2004 City Council Meeting Schedule

Memorandum regarding 2004 Household Hazardous Waste Day

Nov. 19, 2003 Letter from Grayling Fish Hatchery

Letter from Grayling High School Project Graduation

Nov. 24, 2003 Letter from Wellington Farm Park, Inc.

Fire Department Monthly Report for November 2003

Housing Commission Minutes for November 18, 2003

Suggestion Box Comments from the Teen Area of the Devereaux Library

FAX from MML regarding the Legislative Conference

Police Department Monthly Report for November 2003

Legislative Link - December 2, 2003

03-276

Moved by Moshier, seconded by Palmer that the Consent Agenda be approved as amended: moving item "A" to Old Business and items "E," "F," "J" and "G" to New Business. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, motion carried.

V. Approval of Council Minutes

03-277

Moved by Palmer, seconded by

Moshier that the minutes of the meeting of November 24, 2003 be approved as presented: Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, motion carried.

Citizens Who Wish To Speak On Agenda Items.

Doug Meroney requested to be allowed to speak on the topics of the Sign Ordinance and the Charter Communications Extension.

Old Business.

Carl Lehto thanked the Council on behalf of Gosling Czubak for being allowed to do business with the City of Grayling.

Fire Department Agreement / Policy

03-278

Moved by Palmer, seconded by McClain to bring the agreement back to the next regular meeting: Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, motion carried.

The City Manager will get the Council more information concerning the proposed split.

03-279

Moved by Palmer, seconded by Moshier to adopt the Resolution Regarding Fire Department Hiring and the letter of support for the policy: Roll Call Vote:

Akers: Aye, Ferrigan: Aye, McClain: Aye, Moshier: Aye, Palmer: Aye, motion carried.

Kim McClain and Doug Meroney gave an update of the progress that the committee is making on the Sign Ordinance.

Committee Appointments

03-280

Moved by Palmer, seconded by Moshier to accept the Mayor's reappointment of Mary Neal for a five-year term on the Compensation Commission: Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, motion carried.

03-281

Moved by Palmer, seconded by Moshier to reappoint Dan Bonamic for a three-year term on the Zoning Board of Appeals: Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, motion carried.

03-282

Moved by Palmer, seconded by Moshier to reappoint Junior Palmer for a three-year term to the Zoning Board of Appeals: Roll Call Vote: Ferrigan: Nay, McClain: Nay, Moshier: Nay, Palmer: Aye, Akers: Aye, motion failed.

03-283

Moved by McClain, seconded by Moshier to appoint Shirley Curriston from an alternate member to a full time member of the Zoning Board of Appeals for a three-year term: Roll Call Vote: McClain: Aye, Moshier: Aye, Palmer: Aye, Akers: Aye, Ferrigan: Aye, motion carried.

03-284

Moved by Palmer, seconded by Moshier to appoint Junior Palmer as the Alternate on the Zoning Board of Appeals for the remainder of the unexpired term: Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, motion carried.

03-285

Moved by Moshier, seconded by Akers to appoint Deb Hadley as an Alternate on the Zoning Board of Appeals for a three-year term: Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, motion carried.

03-286

Moved by Moshier, seconded by McClain to approve the Mayor's reappointment of Dan Bonamic and Tim Zigila on the Planning Commission for three-year terms: Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, motion carried.

Mayor Ferrigan suggested that the Parks Committee needs to be reorganized to become a Parks and Recreation Committee, with some better ground rules.

03-287

Moved by Moshier, seconded by Palmer to retain the Parks Committee: Roll Call Vote: Moshier: Aye, Palmer: Aye, Akers: Aye, Ferrigan: Aye, McClain: Aye, motion carried.

Consensus of the Council was to give Dennis Palmer, Council Liaison to the Parks Committee, ninety days to work on straightening out the committee. Council will review the Parks Committee again at that time.

03-288

Moved by Moshier, seconded by Palmer to reappoint Carolyn Diponio to the Parks Committee for ninety days: Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, motion carried.

03-289

Moved by Palmer, seconded by Moshier to reappoint Joni Dunckel to the Parks Committee for ninety days: Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, motion carried.

### City Council Rules

03-290

Moved by Palmer, seconded by Moshier to adopt the New City Council Rules:

Moved by Palmer, seconded by Moshier to amend the motion to adopt the New City Council Rules as amended changing Rule #B-6 as follows:

6. Attendance at Council meetings

Election to the City Council is a privilege freely sought by the nominee. It carries with it the responsibility to participate in Council meetings and represent the residents of the City. Attendance at Council meetings is critical to fulfilling this responsibility.

Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, motion carried.

03-291

Moved by Palmer, seconded by Moshier to take a two minute break: Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, motion carried.

Break at 8:56 PM.

Meeting reconvened at 8:58 PM.

VIII. New Business.

Snowmobile Route

03-292

Moved by Moshier, seconded by Palmer to approve the Resolution Creating a Snowmobile Route: Moved by Moshier, seconded by Palmer to amend the motion to approve the Resolution Creating a Snowmobile Route as amended, changing: No person shall operate a snowmobile on Michigan Avenue or the I-75 Business Loop, south of Spruce Street, at any time except to cross said roadways:

Roll Call Vote: Palmer: Nay, Akers: Nay, Ferrigan: Nay, McClain: Nay, Moshier: Aye, motion failed.

03-293

Moved by Moshier, seconded by Palmer to extend the meeting past 9:30 PM: Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, motion carried.

03-294

Moved by Palmer, seconded by Moshier to table the resolution Creating a Snowmobile Route until the first meeting in January: Ayes: 0, Nays: 5, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, motion failed.

03-295

Moved by Palmer, seconded by Moshier to approve the Resolution Creating a Snowmobile Route as amended, changing: Lake Street from Business Loop to Spruce Street; and No person shall operate a snowmobile on Michigan Avenue at any time except to cross said roadway: Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, motion carried.

Charter Communications Extension

03-296

Moved by Akers, seconded by Moshier to accept the request from Charter Communications for an extension on the franchise through July 31, 2004: Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, motion carried.

Nov. 19, 2003 Letter from Grayling Fish Hatchery

03-297

Moved by Moshier, seconded by Palmer to have the City Manager send the Fish Hatchery a Grant Application form for the Extended Use of the Income Tax: Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, motion carried.

Letter from Grayling High School Project Graduation

03-298

Moved by Palmer, seconded by McClain to send a Grant Application to Project Graduation: Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, motion carried.

Suggestion Box Comments from the Teen Area of the Devereaux Library

03-299

Moved by Palmer, seconded by Moshier to forward the list of suggestions from the library to the DDA: Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, motion carried.

Nov. 24, 2003 Letter from Wellington Farm Park, Inc.

03-300

Moved by McClain, seconded by Palmer to send Wellington Farm Park a Grant Application: Moved by McClain, seconded by Palmer to withdraw motion: Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, motion carried.

It was requested that the City Manager or the City Clerk respond to the letter

from Wellington Farm Park, asking if they would like to be on the agenda next year.

Stormwater Grant

03-301

Moved by Palmer, seconded by Moshier to give the City Manager the authority to sign the contracts with Huron Pines and Gosling Czubak, for the stormwater grant, upon review and approval from the City Attorney: Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, motion carried.

IX. Citizens who wish to speak.

Mr. Meroney stated that there were still street lights out on Michigan Avenue. Mr. Meroney said "Thank You" for removing the "Dead End" sign on North Down River Road leading to City Hall.

Mr. Meroney also informed the Council of the GUDA meeting dates and invited them to attend.

Mr. Wellman gave an update on the ice rink at the City Hall location.

X. Reports.

ZBA

No meeting.

Planning Commission

No meeting.

DDA

Met this morning with the MEDC regarding sources of funding available at the state level.

Their regular meeting is on Thursday December 11, 2003 at 7:30 AM, in the Council Chambers at City Hall. The Director from Gaylord's DDA will be present.

Parks Committee

No meeting.

City Manager

Stated that the Council requested some information from the City Attorney regarding the expenditure for the Chamber membership and asked the City Attorney if he found out anything. The City should be receiving a letter from the Attorney with an explanation.

Council Members

Akers stated that the street lights that are still out on Michigan Avenue are no longer a nuisance problem, but a safety issue.

Akers asked Mr. Meroney for an approximation of how long a GUDA meeting lasts. He would like to attend, but has another meeting scheduled and does not want to have to leave in the middle of a meeting.

McClain asked Allen whether the DDA was familiar with the Michigan Main Street Program.

Palmer questioned why the Sheriff's Department has the speed recorder being used in the City Limits. And why the City Police aren't doing it rather than the County when they are already short handed. The County could be doing other areas in the County and let our Police Department do the City. The City Manager informed him that it was an arrangement worked out between the Chief and the Sheriff.



# FEATURES

## A LOOK AT OUR PAST FROM THE PAGES OF THE AVALANCHE



From the January 29, 1981 Crawford County Avalanche. Attending the Economics Adjustment Strategy Committee's kickoff dinner January 21st were these local officials and out-of-town guests, Ted Kortes, Small Business/Industry Committee; City Manager Jerry Morford; Strategy Committee President, Roy Spangler; Jack Hull, Manager, Prof./Industrial Plaza; Jerry Albert, Youth Education Coordinator, NEMMC; James Houck, Mich. Department of Labor; Walt Nowak, County Commissioner; Duanne Swift, C of C Executive Director, Bob Quadrozzi, NEMMC Staff Coordinator and Steve Perry, KCC Development Officer.

### 23 Years Ago January 29, 1981

Dave Jensen, who has been associated with Sorenson Agency and Associates, Inc. since 1974, announced this week that he had recently purchased the business and plans to relocate the offices in February.

Saturday morning before departing from Rochester's Leader Dog School are Nancy Hatfield with "Bear", Jeff and Steve Cowie and Chris Breitfield with "Duke".

Grayling Mercantile Co. is having wall to wall sales, boots your choice \$5.00 pair, jackets, blouses and sweaters 50% off, all children shoes \$2.00 pair, and Woolrich flannel shirts 1/3 off. You'll never see prices this low on so much, again! Hurry in and save 50% and more on name brands.

Partial funding for the Crawford County 5th grade trip to the Shrine Circus in Saginaw was supplied by the Grayling Rotary Club as Past President Pat Nunn handed over a check

to Shriner Don Sorenson.

At Grayling Mercantile on January 20th, store employees unfurled the American Flag to celebrate the release of the 52 U.S. hostages in Iran. Their release ended 444 days of captivity by Iranian militants and was indeed a memorable day in American history.

Grayling is in line to get a unique railroad loading facility, probably in fiscal year 1981-82, providing state legislators look favorable on a proposal which has been accepted and approved by the Michigan Department of Transportation. The installation will allow business and industry in the area to ship goods and receive supplies by rail at a drop off dock, reducing transportation and freight costs which have become a deterrent to economic growth in Northern Michigan.

At the Grayling State Bank's annual stockholders' dinner held January 20th, Jack Alef, president of the bank announced the promotion of Marie Cason to Assistant Cashier from her position of Administrative Assistant. Marie has been with the bank for 22 years and started out as bookkeeper and then teller before her appointment as Administrative Assistant.

### 46 Years Ago January 30, 1958

A snow plow able to cut a 16 foot swath in the snow and able to move 6,000 tons of snow per

hour was tested at the Grayling McNamara Air Base this past weekend.

Grayling Councilman Don Gothro has been named to the Taxation and Finance Committee of the Michigan Municipal League for 1958.

### 69 Years Ago January 31, 1935

It took an extra period of play to do it, but a fighting basketball team from Grayling High School subdued the powerful Alpena Thunderbolts last Friday night. The score was 24 to 20 after thirty five minutes of furious action.

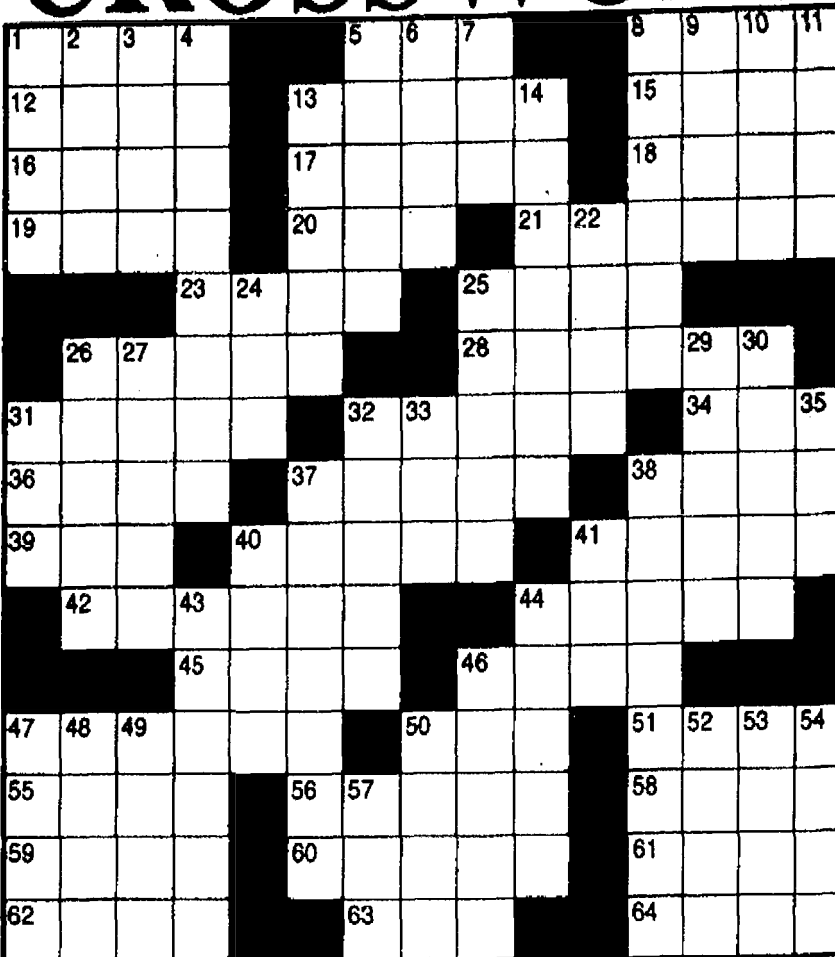
Thirty-four below at 8 o'clock Sunday morning is what the official thermometer registered at the Fish Hatchery. Wednesday morning was another blinger when the mercury dropped to 22 below.

### 92 Years Ago February 1, 1912

Frederic has an up-to-date band.

Jake Karnes of Frederic was so mewhat surprised when he got up Monday morning and found that the roof had caught fire while he was sleeping. He hurriedly dressed and went above, finding a hole burnt through the roof. In coming down the ladder he slipped and fell into a tub (undoubtedly the tub was full) the ladder falling on top of all. No bones were broken.

## CROSSWORD



### ACROSS

- Grassy place
- Luggage identifier
- Ralph Lauren's line
- As to
- "Spicy" musical style
- Estrada of CHIPS
- Twist
- Grace (Atwood novel)
- Eye maliciously
- Cinematographers' swings
- Golf ball's launching pad
- "Little Miss Muffet" (3 wds.)
- Pointers
- Golden, for one
- Actress Joey Lauren
- Deteriorates
- Sparkling
- Fracas
- Sty denizen
- Like out of hell (2 wds.)
- Spanish melodies
- Laos's locale
- First name in Wolfmen
- Award funds
- Sample bottles
- Candidate's promise
- Magdalene and Poppins

- Kirghiz range
- Drink thirstily
- Weather word
- Saucepan
- The of the White Worm (1988 film)
- Sound like a chained-up dog
- Turn inside out
- Lhasa
- Along Without You Very Well (2 wds.)
- One of the Bush sons
- About half a jigger
- Commanded
- Celtic language

- Gumbo ingredient
- Gluts
- Guarantees
- African plant
- Diamond judge
- Rent again
- Trellis
- Newsman Sawyer
- Bar exam component
- Stains
- Baseball's Ripken
- Little Havana's locale
- Sea Eagle
- "There an old woman..."
- Systemized
- 1980 disaster-film spoof
- Midas's obsession
- Kilmer of The Saint
- Imperfect
- Mongrels
- Overcharged
- Semiconductor
- Peacock, for NBC
- Supreme Court Justice Roberts
- Folk singer Seeger
- Mimicker
- Horus's mother
- Cattle call prize
- au-vent

### DOWN

- Speech impediment
- "Diana" singer Paul
- Drab looking songbird
- Jennings's report
- Allegories
- "I cannot tell" (2 wds.)
- Org. that is Juliette Low's legacy
- Attacked with stones
- Sandwich cookie brand
- Property attachment

## ANSWERS IN THE CLASSIFIEDS

## Adopt a Pet



Jinx is about 1 year old. Really nice Shepherd mix. Nice temperament, good with other dogs. He is neutered, has all of his vaccinations, and has been heartworm tested. We are still taking appointments for cats spays and neuters. Call 348-4117 for more information.

2004 Pet Calendars are still available for a donation of only \$5 each! The calendar is colorful and has the right sized date squares to log all of your important dates. We think the calendar will make a great affordable holiday gift for anyone of any age. Also, we still have about 25 Creature Comfort Cookbooks. Buy one for a donation of only \$15. Stop by the Avalanche or the Shelter to purchase one (or both) of these great fund-raiser items. Cookbooks are also available at Riverland Gear and the Medicine Shoppe in Grayling. All proceeds go to the shelter.

The Animal Shelter of Crawford County is located at:  
508 1/2 Huron Street (M-72 East) in Grayling

Between the Road Commission and the Eagles Hall

Hours: Mon. - Sat. 9 am - 3 pm; Sun. and Holidays 8 am - 11 am

After hour appointments available. Call (989) 348-4117

## WEATHER

Courtesy of the City of Grayling

### Last Week

| Date | H  | L   | Snow |
|------|----|-----|------|
| 1/21 | 15 | -8  | 17   |
| 1/22 | 23 | 5   | 21   |
| 1/23 | 6  | -1  | 22   |
| 1/24 | 12 | -17 | 22   |
| 1/25 | 11 | -17 | 23   |
| 1/26 | 17 | -14 | 23   |
| 1/27 | 19 | 12  | 26   |

### Extended Forecast

(Courtesy of the Weather.com)

| Date | High | Low | Conditions    |
|------|------|-----|---------------|
| 1/28 | 16   | 10  | Snow          |
| 1/29 | 17   | 8   | Snow          |
| 1/30 | 22   | 9   | Snow          |
| 1/31 | 21   | -1  | Snow          |
| 2/1  | 11   | -2  | Partly Cloudy |

## RECIPE OF THE WEEK



## Balsamic Glazed Chicken Stir Fry

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 (8 ounce) red bell pepper, cut diagonally into 1/2-inch pieces
- 2 (4 ounce) zucchini, halved and sliced diagonally 1/4-inch thick
- 3 cloves garlic, thinly sliced
- 3/4 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1/2 teaspoon crushed red pep per flakes
- 1 pound boneless, skinless chicken breasts, sliced 1/4-inch thick
- 1/3 cup balsamic vinegar
- 1/3 cup low sodium chicken broth

- 1 cup California Ripe Olives, halved
- 1/4 cup chopped basil
- 2 tablespoons toasted pine nuts (optional)

Heat 1 1/2 teaspoons olive oil in a large sauté pan or wok over high heat. Add red bell peppers, zucchini and garlic, season with 1/4 teaspoon salt and pepper flakes and cook for 3-4 minutes until just tender. Transfer to a clean plate. Set aside. Pour remaining olive oil in pan and heat over high. Add chicken, season with remaining salt and cook for 1-2 minutes, stirring occasionally until browned. Turn heat down to medium, add balsamic vinegar and chicken broth and cook for 2-4 more minutes until slightly thickened and syrupy. Return pepper mixture to pan and toss in California Ripe Olives and basil. Garnish with pine nuts before serving, if desired.

## GOLD WEATHER SCRAMBLE

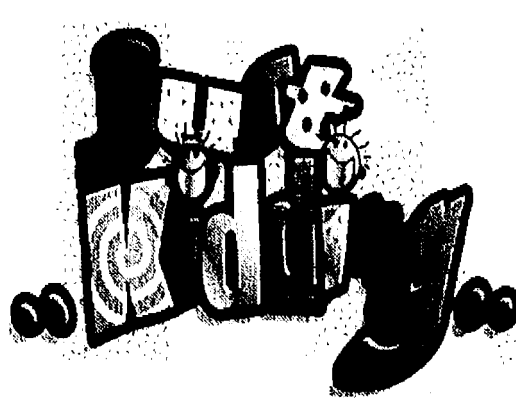
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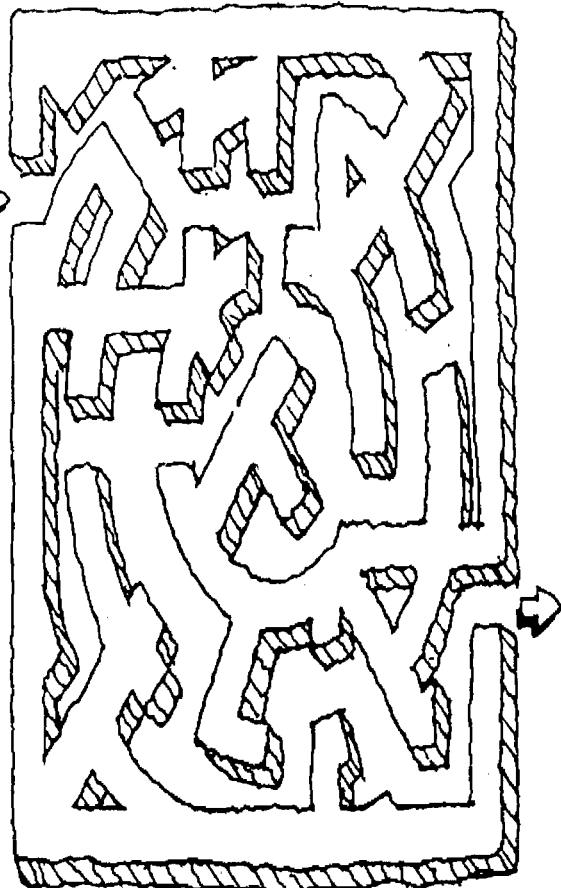
FLANSOWEKS

SOVLEG



## DID YOU KNOW

13% of Americans actually believe that some parts of the Moon are made of cheese!



## HOROSCOPES

For the Week of January 29, 2004



January 22-February 19

Your creative passions flourish. Take advantage of the time to design your next masterpiece. A relative enlists your help.



March 21-April 19

You're showered with affection this week. Enjoy it! Who knows how long it will be before you'll again feel so appreciated.



June 22-July 22

In spite of your best efforts, you rub people the wrong way. Soon that will change and you'll get along with everyone, including your enemies.



September 23-October 22

Taking risks comes naturally to you this week. Not only do you face problems head on, but you seek out new challenges.



July 23-August 22

You've put others first long enough—time to be selfish and make yourself happy. Life is too short not to. A deadline draws near—get busy!



April 20-May 20

A discussion with a friend turns sour. Before you get all bent out of shape, make sure what you're fighting about is worth it.



August 23-September 22

You receive expert advice this week, but that doesn't mean you have to follow it. Remember, it's your life and you're in control.



October 23-November 21

A situation at home lingers. The sooner you admit you're wrong, the faster things will improve and the better you'll feel.



November 22-December 21

You like to be the boss, but you need to step aside and let someone else be in charge this week. A matter at home requires careful thought.



May 21-June 21

Clearing off your desk has become next to impossible. Slow down, get organized and stay focused, and you'll soon be back on track.



January 22-February 19

No matter what you say, a young friend knows otherwise. Back off and let them learn about life the hard way.



February 20-March 20

Lately nothing seems to be on your side. Cheer up—better times are around the corner. A special date deserves your attention.



# ADVERTISING CLASSIFIED

Crawford County Avalanche

Classifieds must be paid for in advance

Display Advertising Rate - \$6.90 per column inch

Deadline for Display Classifieds - 12 noon, Monday

Classifieds by the word rate - \$5.00 for 15 words or

less, 10¢ per each additional word; includes Internet listing:

www.townnews.com/avalanche/

Classified by the word deadline - 12 noon, Tuesday

## 1. Real Estate

**3 BEDROOM, 1 BATH 2 1/2** acres, 2 car garage, storage shed, nice big yard, perfect up north retreat, 7 miles from Grayling. \$75,000 (989) 344-7669 1-800-848-1268 (1/8/04/tf/1)

## 1. Real Estate

**HOUSE FOR SALE** Three bedroom ranch, full basement partially finished, carport, 24 x 30 deck, great neighborhood, 1.5 miles from town, close to all schools. \$64,999. (989) 348-9703 (1/8/04/tf/1)

## 1. Real Estate

**FOR SALE BY OWNER** nice piece of riverfront property, 3.73 acres with 298 feet of frontage on the AuSable River. \$60,000. Call Chris at 348-4037. (-29/1)

## 1. Real Estate

**MANY NORTHERN MICHIGAN** Properties www.century21grayling.com (1/7/99/tf/1)

**NEW THREE BEDROOM** two car attached, five miles east of town. \$87,000 (989) 348-4840 (-8-15-22-29/1)

**TWO BEDROOM** one bath, 1.5 acres, private road behind Sherwood Forest. New roof, hardwood floors, carpet, full length front & back decks, covered and much more. Great starter home. \$69,500. (989) 344-6858. (-22-29/1)

**TIRE OF RENTING?** We have a three bedroom, 1 1/2 bath home in Grayling Township. We would like to sell! We're willing to help with financing as long as you are willing to put something down. If you think you might be interested, please take a look. Call us at 348-4037. (-29/1)

## 1. Real Estate

**VACANT LAND 5+/-** of secluded land. Lots of pines and oaks. Close to snowmobile trail, \$16,500 or \$3,500 down. \$276.21 per month. (810) 231-1265. (-29/1)

**FIVE BEDROOM** Completely remodeled 1,800 sq. ft. 210 Mikado St. Two baths all new, roof, siding, windows, doors, drywall, kitchen, baths, plumbing, electric, 90 percent efficient furnace, carpet, floor covering, interior doors, cabinets, finished back porch, extra lot. Priced to sell at \$126,000. Call owner (989) 348-4716. (1/15/04/tf/1)

## 2. For Rent

**OFFICE/RETAIL SPACE** AVAILABLE immediately 1100 square feet. For more information call 941-875-2486. (-29-5-12/2)

HOUSE, CABINS AND

## 2. For Rent

**MOBILE home** at Lost Acres. Large three to four bedroom log home with new flooring and paint. Garage not included \$595, plus \$600 security and all utilities. One bedroom cabins for rent from \$275 - \$375, including all utilities, plus \$200 security. Two bedroom mobile home, older, clean, only \$375, plus \$400 security and utilities. Units are located on 30 wooded acres, from 11004 - 11010 North Old U.S. 27, three miles south of Waters. Walk to Blue Gill Lake. Call Leo toll free at 877-227-6976 or at 586-216-0682. Sorry, no pets allowed. (1/29/04TF/2)

**ONE BEDROOM DUPLEX** Ready February, in the city, appliances, heat and lights furnished, phone. (989) 348-8066 (1/16/04/tf/2)

**VIKING VILLAGE APARTMENT** is now accepting applications for immediate occupancy, as well as waiting list positions. Very nice, two bedroom, two bath apartments with an attached garage and central air conditioning in a private secluded setting. Lease includes appliances, weekly garbage pickup, snow removal, and lawn care. Paved street, natural gas. Credit application required. No pets. Inquire at Farm Bureau Insurance - Herb Olson (989) 348-9456. (10/30/03/tf/2)

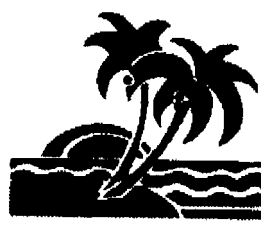
**TWO HOUSES FOR RENT** two bedrooms, range, refrig. inc. Utilities not inc. No pets. 3110 Margarethe Blvd., \$325 mo. 8115 Insley St., \$425 plus security deposit. 989-348-4716. (1/22/04/tf/2)

## "Winter's Coming - Thinking of Florida??"

For a Business or Investment Opportunity  
Call your Grayling Florida Connections



Grayling  
Randy Thompson  
Broker



Bokeelia, Florida  
Don Bowers  
Broker

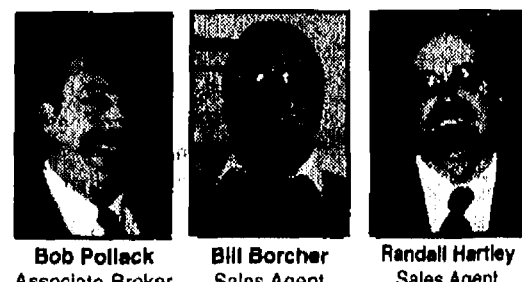
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(989) 348-5474  
Century 21 River Country  
2375 S. I-75 Business Loop  
Grayling, Michigan

## Go With The Winning Team!



Randy Thompson  
Broker / Owner  
Connie Winans  
Associate Broker  
Scott Hanson  
Sales Agent



Bob Pollack  
Associate Broker  
Bill Borchers  
Sales Agent  
Randall Hartley  
Sales Agent



Jerry Gosnell  
Associate Broker  
Casey Thompson  
Sales Agent  
Vicki Harrington  
Sales Agent

### Special Feature!



"Fine quality Workmanship throughout! Stunning entrance into the 16x28 "Great Room" with beautiful Cedar Cathedral Ceilings. A large snack bar divides the living room from the kitchen. The spacious Oak Kitchen is a Chef's "dream come true!" Offering lots of cabinet space & counter area to work on, along with some nifty features such as slide out trays, 2 Lazy Susans & Appliance Garage! Pergo Oak Flooring, and Slate at the entry ways, solid oak doors throughout and very well insulated. Exceptional Home! #5061 \$125,000

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Century 21 1-888-324-6568  
Mortgage We'll beat any lender's price or pay you \$500\*

RIVER COUNTRY REAL ESTATE, INC

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www.century21grayling.com

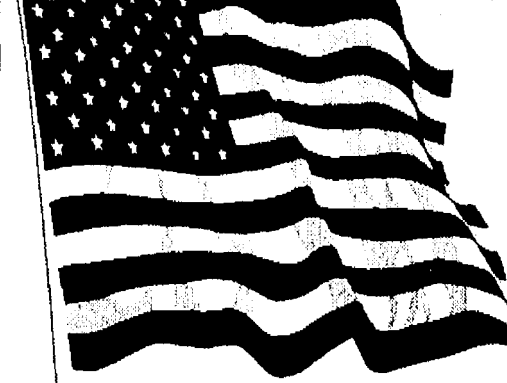


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Office 348-5474

Fax 348-4420

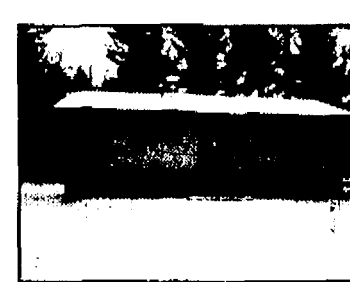
Proud To Be American!



Just what you are looking for! This home has a great location only minutes from town and has a lot to offer such as 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, full finished basement with family room/Game Room... Comes with the pool table! Great yard patio, garden and landscaping all remodeled inside and out. You've got to see this one! #5241 \$111,500



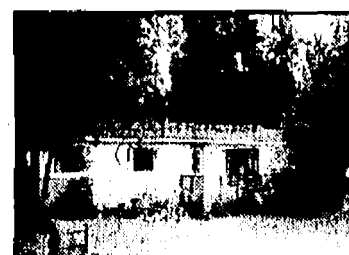
Stunning Home Custom built in 2000. Located on 1.4 acres. Outstanding characteristics include: custom Ash Cabinets throughout, Hickory Hardwood Floors, Anderson Windows, 22x38 Insulated & Heated Garage, Fenced Yard, Patio, Covered Front Porch and all major appliances. #5216 \$159,000



Location, quality, value and charm! This 4 BR, bilevel home in Roscommon's desirable Brookside area is a must see. Home features unique hot tub room/family room combo, 2 car attached heated garage with entrance to lower level, 2 gas fireplaces, too much to list. Property is close to schools and highway access. #5231 \$165,900



Nicely wooded parcel with a wide variety of trees, adjoins state land and thousands of acres of woods, hunting forest and trails for snowmobiling, hiking, camping etc. Unfinished rustic design cottage with wood burning stove and built in bar area nestled in a very secluded 1.6 acres. #5074 \$79,000



Look what you can get for \$78,000. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 car garage, large fenced in yard with big deck & swimming pool, shed, decorative pond, landscaping. The range, refrigerator, dishwasher, washer & dryer are all included! Great location close to bike trails and to town. #5168



Completely renovated home in the City of Grayling. Spotlessly clean and well maintained. Two car garage with wood working shop both heated and insulated. Basement with utility room on main floor. #5161 \$90,000



80 feet of frontage on Houghton Lake. Outstanding views from nearly every room. 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths. Master suite features a fireplace, 15x15 bath with Jacuzzi tub, 10x15 walk in closet. Outdoor amenities include under-ground sprinkler system with lake pump, sink in hot tub on deck, sea wall, dock, electric at lake, plus interior and exterior sound system. #599,000 #5174



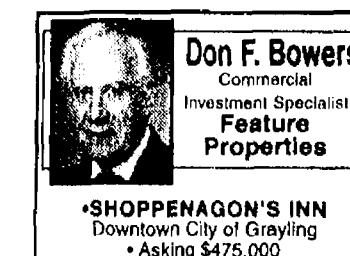
Clean 1,606 square foot home has plenty to offer, including a pretty neat location and a great price! Check this out: 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, living room and family room, dining separate from kitchen, attached garage, paved drive, covered patio, and privacy fence. All this for \$77,500. #5162



Affordable three bedroom, two bath home, on good size lot, just minutes from town. While under construction buyer could pick out their own colors on floor coverings, countertop and cabinetry. #5147 \$106,900



Hunting and Snowmobiling Paradise. This neat cabin is located on approximately 28 acres and is about as secluded as it gets. Adjoining state land on the north side and located less than one mile from the Blue Bear snowmobile connector trail. Cabin has been partially wired, however no electricity is available at this time and a generator might be a good option. \$95,000 #5176



Don F. Bowers  
Commercial  
Investment Specialist  
Feature Properties

•SHOPPENAGON'S INN  
Downtown City of Grayling  
•Asking \$475,000

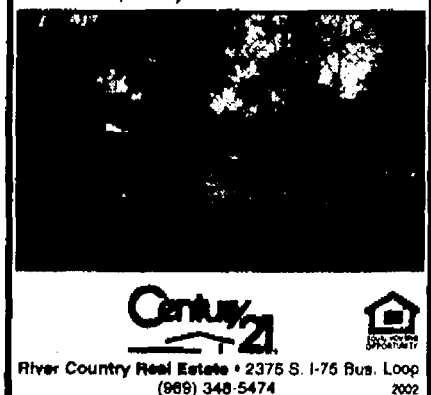
•FORMERLY ERNIE'S  
FLEA MARKET  
15854 West M-72 - 300' Frontage  
(2) Commercial Buildings  
•Asking \$199,500

•SEVEN (2) ACRE PARCELS  
Commercial Park  
•Starting at \$27,500 - Kalkaska

•COMMERCIAL BUILDING  
500 James Street  
•Reduced to \$70,000

## 1. Real Estate

80' of shared deeded lake front on Lake Margrethe, allows you the privilege to leave your boat in the water over the summer and enjoy the sandy beach. Ranch style home has 2 bedrooms, fireplace, attached garage and more! #5228 \$140,000



River Country Real Estate • 2375 S. I-75 Bus. Loop  
(989) 348-5474

**SALES TEAM**

Bernie S. Odell ABR Office Manager Associate Broker

Curly Larkotte Associate Broker

Dawn S. Murphy ABR Associate Broker

Mike Anderson ABR Associate Broker

Larry Nelson Associate Broker

Robert Langston Associate Broker

Barry Larkotte Associate Broker

John Howe Associate Broker

Paul Sapp Associate Broker

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**NEW LISTING**

**LOCATION! LOCATION! LOCATION!** Here is the perfect opportunity to start a business. Needs lots of TLC and ambition \$185,000 #230447

**PRICE REDUCED**

**10+ ACRES, NICE HOME & BASEMENT** With 10.08 acres of open land, this 4 B/R, 2 bath home is a horse lover's perfect location. 30'x32' garage with concrete drive, 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, gas log fireplace, handicap ramps, large basement and much more. \$115,000 #230069

**PRICE REDUCED**

**FIXER-UPPER IN TOWN** 2 BR, 1 bath handyman special on city lot that is close to downtown and AuSable River. "As is" condition. Appliances not guaranteed. \$19,900 #229915

**PRICE REDUCED**

**NICE HOME FOR FAMILY** Just five miles from Roscommon, this 3 bedroom, 1 bath home is just off a major paved road. Completely remodeled interior, new kitchen, all new electric, and 2 new porches. Close to state land and Kirtland College, great for a family \$51,900 #220100

**NEW LISTING**

**11+ ACRES TRAVEL TRAILER** The perfect property for a hunting camp, for camping, or for that dream home. Includes travel trailer and adjoins state land to the East. \$39,900 #230381

**NICE 10 ACRE PARCELS** with state land only 1/4 mile away. A great spot for a cabin, home, or just a camping site. Lots of deer in the area and 90% wooded. Land Contract Possible. \$24,000 & \$25,400 #222624-222637

**REMODELED CABIN WITH LAKE MARGRETHE ACCESS** A 2BR, 1 bath remodeled cabin. Newer roof, windows, doors, siding, carpet, garage and 4 well. Only 2 blocks to a road-end easement to Lake Margrethe. Possible land contract terms with good credit check. \$58,000 #229226

**RARE 4 BEDROOM HOME IN CITY** This home offers a lot of space, with 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths and a basement that has been finished. The home features a unique stone fireplace and fountain, new vinyl siding and windows. \$79,200 #229807

**IMMACULATE RIVERFRONT HOME WITH NORTHERN FLAVOR** Stone double-sided fireplace, granite counter tops, pine cabinets, ceramic tile, hardwood floors, wet bar, the list goes on and on to describe this immaculate 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with the "Northern" feeling kept in mind. Large 3-bay garage. Home Warranty Included. Sellers are licensed real estate agents. \$99,900 #229417

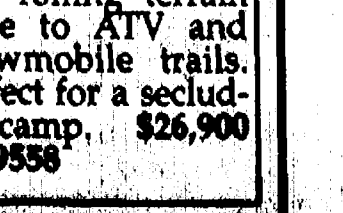
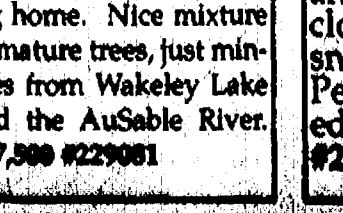
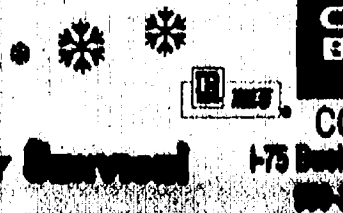
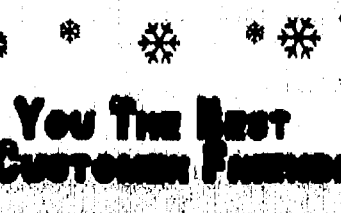
**CLEAN & COZY, GREAT LOCATION!** Neat clean, cozy, and ready to move into. This 3 B/R, 2 bath home is in a great location with a beautiful mixture of hardwoods, and just minutes from Skyline Ski Park. Includes stove, refrigerator, washer and dryer, all new electric, and 2 new porches. Close all the toys. \$65,500 #229641

**WOODED ACREAGE** Acreage in a nice mix of hardwoods, pines, rolling hills and meadows. Lots are in 10, 20, and 40 acre parcels. Prices from \$35,000 to \$130,000 #14849-14888

**PRIVATE AND PERFECT FOR LOG HOME** Very private, great building area and perfect for a log home. Nice mixture of mature trees, just minutes from Wakeley Lake and the AuSable River. \$27,900 #229081

**10 ACRES OF HARDWOODS WEST OF VANDERBILT** A nice parcel of hardwoods. Power at the road, very private, but only 5 minutes off I-75. The perfect Up North getaway, or site for year round home. \$42,300 #230123

**10 ACRES OF SECLUSION** 10 acres of hardwoods and rolling terrain close to ATV and snowmobile trails. Perfect for a secluded camp. \$26,900 #229556



**Remember You The Best In Customer Friendly Service!**

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1-75 Business Loop (Next to K-Mart) • Grayling, Michigan 49738  
(989) 348-5474



**TWO BEDROOM** home within the city. Suitable for single, couple or three person family. No pets. References, deposit, annual lease and utilities required. (989) 348-7868 (-22-29-5/2)

**ONE BEDROOM APARTMENT** on AuSable in town. \$365-380 per month. References. (231) 599-2895 (7/31/03tf/2)

**NICE, CLEAN TWO BEDROOM** mobile home with natural gas. \$400 a month plus deposit. No pets. (989) 348-2418 (-29-05-12-19/2)

**FOR SALE** three bedroom two bath mobile home remodeled, new carpet and flooring, \$8,900. Possible terms or rent with option to buy. 619-2800 (989) 348-0194. (-29-5/2)

**FOR LEASE COMMERCIAL** Building. Approximately 4,000 ft, great retail location at light on M-72 West and 93. Call for details. (989) 348-8659 (11/20/03tf/2)

**RELIABLE, NO SMOKER** Close to Higgins Lake. \$525 a month. (616) 365-8072 (-22-29/2)

**HOUSE FOR RENT** in Frederic \$500 month plus utilities. Call (989) 348-6173. (-22-29/2)

**ONE BEDROOM STUDIO APARTMENT** includes utilities plus dish network very private setting, location M-72 West of Grayling. \$450 per month. Call 989-619-8746.

**RIVERVIEW SENIOR APARTMENTS** 306 Knight Street in Grayling has one bedroom units. Persons must be 62 years or older and/or handicapped or disabled of any age. Rent based on income. No Minimum Rent. Applications at office on site or call Linda at 1-800-225-7982. Managed by Stratford Group Ltd., 442 W. Baldwin Street, Alpena, MI 49707. Equal Housing Opportunity. Hearing TDD # 1-800-855-1155. (-8-15-22-29/2)

**RIVER FOREST FAMILY** apartments at the corner of Hannah and Ballenger in Roscommon has one and two bedroom units available. Rent based on income, No Minimum Rent. Heat included. Applications at office on site or call (989) 275-4061 or 10-800-225-7982. Mention this ad and we pay your electric for two months. Managed by Stratford Group Ltd., 442 W. Baldwin Street, Alpena, MI 49707. Equal Housing Opportunity. Hearing TDD # 1-800-855-1155. (-8-15-22-29/2)

**VACANCY, PRIVATE ROOM, LICENSED** adult care home. Beautiful setting on AuSable Village Manor, Frederic. (989) 348-2060. (-29/2)

**WEEKLY AND MONTHLY** house rentals near Roscommon, Grayling, Higgins Lake and Houghton Lake. Higgins North Cottage Rentals. (989) 821-3434 (12/25/03tf/2)

**ONE BEDROOM** second floor apartment. Suitable for single or couple. Newly refurbished, carpeted, washer. No smoking, or pets. References, deposit, annual lease and utilities required. (989) 348-7868 (-22-29-5/2)

**NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS** for truck driver, CDL required, full-time employment, benefit package includes Blue Cross and Blue Shield, profit sharing and 401K. Apply in person between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Located at 4440 East Four Mile Road. East of I-75 or telephone Human Resources at (989) 348-5412 ext. 151. For application by mail. (-29-5/3)

**SALES REP NEEDED** for Grayling and surrounding areas. Must live in Grayling. Travel required. Salary, commission plus expenses paid. Fax or mail resume to 517-663-3625 (fax) and mail to 11807 June Circle, Eaton Rapids, MI 48827. (-22-29-5/3)

**NEEDED 17** people to lose up to 30 lbs. in the next 30 days! 100% natural! 100% guaranteed! No ephedra! Call Carol 888-228-9539 or visit [www.healthwellbeing.com](http://www.healthwellbeing.com). (-29/3)

**ATTENTION:** Work From Home. \$500 - \$1,500 P/T, \$2,000 - \$4,500 F/T 1-800-304-2993 Success@AGreatIncome.com (LR1/29/04/3)

**LEARN HOW TO BUILD** your fortune today, marketing for brand name companies. Meetings held every Thursday at the Gray Rock Cafe in Grayling at 11 a.m. For more information call Tracie at 348-4408 or Vivian at 348-3322. (-22-29-05/3)

**TECHNICIAN JDE** Equipment of Traverse City your John Deere/Timberjack dealer, is looking for 3 qualified resident technicians in northern, north central and eastern Michigan. Applicant must have heavy equipment. Experience with hydraulic, electrical and welding background. Competitive wages and benefits package including 401K. Please send resume and references in confidence to JDE Equipment, 777 US 31 South, Traverse City, MI 49684. EOE Employer. (-22-29/3)

**SUPER 8 OF GRAYLING** is now accepting applications for housekeeping. Please apply in person at 5828 Nelson A Miles Parkway, Grayling. (-22-29/3)

**THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT** of Natural Resources, R.A. MacMullan Conference Center, Higgins Lake, Michigan, is seeking individuals 18-25 years of age for a Housekeeper position. Indoor/outdoor work. Please stop by to pick up an application, 104 Conservation Drive (989) 821-6200. (-29-5/3)

**ART'S HANDYMAN SERVICES** Snow plowing, roof shoveling, quality work you can depend on, reasonable. (989) 344-2036 (989) 710-0195 (-29/4)

**ROOF SHOVELING, SNOW PLOWING** reasonable, (989) 348-2036, 710-0195. (-29/4)

**SERVICE OFFERED** Driver available to transport people, pets, packages or vehicles to medical appointments, weddings, parties, veterinary appointments, etc. Excellent driving record, new vehicle. References available. (989) 348-7868. (-22-29-5/4)

**I CHARGE** by the job not by the hour. Roof and snow shoveling, houses, garages, sheds, trailers. (989) 348-5081. (-29/4)

**SEWING, ZIPPERS, MENDING, QUILTER.** Ask for Lorrie (989) 348-7299. (-29/4)

**OLE BARN BREAKFAST BUFFET** - All you can eat. Sat. and Sun, 9 a.m. to noon. (-22-29/4)

**AUSABLE RIVER BOAT** small wooden boat repair and refinishing also, custom wood working/carved wood signs and glass etching. Call Billy and Cheryl (989) 348-5366. (-29-5/4)

**SNOWPLOWING** and roof snow removal. Commercial/residential. Reasonable rates and dependable service. Call Dale at (989) 348-5848 or (989) 710-1082. (-22-29/4)

**DAYCARE PROVIDER** certified in CPR and first aid. Now accepting children of all ages. Call Heather at (989) 348-9058. (-8-15-22-29/4)

**DRIVERS TRAINING** and Road Testing is offered by the Grayling Driver's training School. Register now for the February 10 class. Contact Howard Lehti (989) 348-8838. (LR2/5/04/4)

**LET JJ'S MOTOR MALL** Get your car, truck or van ready for Winter. Detail includes wash, wax, steam clean carpets and seats, windows, trunk and tires. Appointments necessary. M-72 West (across from Skip's Sport Shop). (989) 348-7710 (1/1/04tf/4)

**SNOW PLOWING GRAYLING** area. Call Jerry (989) 348-7046 Also snow, ice removal from roofs. 30 years experience. (-8-15-22-29/4)

**KATZ CLEANING SERVICE** for all your residential or business cleaning needs. Quality work at an affordable price with references, senior discounts. Call (989) 275-5476 or (989) 390-0004. (12/25/03tf/4)

**ROOF SNOW REMOVAL** quality work, low rates, 20 years experience. Call 348-9703 or 348-8440. (-01/22/04tf/4)

**RTH HOME IMPROVEMENTS** All your interior and exterior home improvement needs. Drywall, painting, roofing, siding, decks and more. Licensed and insured. Snowplowing and shoveling. Free estimates. Rob Harrington. (989) 344-1383 (-22-29-5-12/4)

**SNOW REMOVAL SNOW PLOWING** and roof snow and ice removal. Competitive rates. Free estimates. (989) 348-5817. (-22-29-5-12/4)

**COME JOIN THE FUN** Day care with ABC program in the home of trained and experienced teacher. Openings for ages 18 months to 6 years, hours 7:30 to 5:30. FIA approved, and food program. Call (989) 348-3525. (-22-29-5/4)

**TOM'S POLE BUILDINGS** Free quotes on all size buildings. Featuring Ultra 2000 siding & roofing. 4050 Industrial Dr., Harrison, Michigan 1 (800) 541-3974 [tomspolebuildings.com](http://tomspolebuildings.com) (2/7/02tf/4)

**AVALANCHE OFFICE HOURS:** Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. 102 Michigan Avenue, Grayling - (989) 348-6811

**THE CLASSIFIED** - The perfect place to find what you want. (989) 348-6811

**1. Real Estate**

# MORTGAGES



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No Income/No Asset,  
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**Jeanne Lee**  
231-933-4700  
1-800-794-3440  
1111 E. Eighth St.  
Traverse City, MI 49686

**RE/MAX OF Grayling**

**CRAG HINKLE**  
REALTOR

**CHARLES SCHMITT**  
REALTOR

**New Listing**



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HALL** LOCATED ON I-75 BUSINESS LOOP. Price includes all equipment and furnishings to operate commercial kitchen, banquet and special occasion's rental large paved parking lot. Has frontage on three major city streets, excellent location for your commercial usage. \$295,000 CH-1680

**New Listing**



**201' FRONTAGE AND 5 ACRES ON THE BIG CREEK** North Down River Road, left on Walsh Road (stay left at fork) 2 miles turn right on Low Road. Follow Re/Max signs. CH-1878 \$39,000

**BEAUTIFULLY WOODED HILLSIDE SETTING** with rolling terrain overlooking pond. Gorgeous newly remodeled 912 s.f. home plus full finished walk-out basement. 3 BR, 2 bath, family room, 2 fireplaces, vaulted ceiling, doorwall onto 400 s.f. elevated deck. Maintenance free exterior with a rustic up north interior. 2 car garage and a 8 x 20 storage shed. Perfect recreational area near lakes and state land. CH-1687 \$99,500

**VERY SECLUDED** 3.1 acres of slightly rolling terrain with nice mixture of oak, maple, & white pine. Bright, cheerful and spacious saltbox styled home 3 BR, 2 baths, open vaulted ceiling, freshly painted, new carpet throughout, ceramic tile in kitchen and bath, french doors onto 10 x 22 deck. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, washer, and dryer all included. Immediate occupancy! Priced below appraised value for quick sale. CH-1750 \$84,900

**HEAT AND CLEAN WITH COUNTRY SETTING** Newly remodeled home on 2.5 acres. 920 s.f., 2 BR, 1 bath, 36x24 garage. Updated windows, garage doors, and floor covering. Handicap accessible, landscaped yard, fenced in back yard. To include stove refrigerator, washer, and dryer. Firepit. Close to snowmobile trails, state land and lakes. 1 1/2 miles from I-75. CS-1771 \$69,500

**SURROUNDED WITH HARDWOODS** New home with 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths and detached garage. Master Suite offers garden tub, separate shower and skylight. Kitchen offers beautiful oak cabinets with snack bar, garage disposal, refrigerator with ice and water maker, gas stove, and built-in microwave. Washer and dryer. Peaked ceilings. Oak entertainment center in living room. Immediate Possession at Closing. CS-1763 \$86,900

**A 15 ACRE RETREAT FOR ALL SEASONS** Chalet with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Open floor plan built in 1995. 3 bedroom, 2 bath home offers 1500 square feet. Open floor plan. Master bedroom offers walk-in closet, garden tub and separate shower. All bedrooms have walk-in closets. Kitchen offers oak white cabinets, gas stove, refrigerator and dishwasher. Washer and dryer also included. Peaked ceilings. Vinyl windows and vinyl siding. Attached 28 x 24 garage. County maintained Road. CS-1600 \$120,000

**COMpletely REMODELED HOME.** 2 Bedroom, 1 bath home offers open floor plan, new drywall, new carpet, new oak kitchen cabinets. New 24x24 Garage built in 1999. Large lot with private access to Manistee River Park with deeded access to the Manistee River. Very neat and clean. CS-1661 \$73,900

**CONVENIENTLY LOCATED CLOSE TO TOWN** Newer home built in 1995. 3 bedroom, 2 bath home offers 1500 square feet. Open floor plan. Master bedroom offers walk-in closet, garden tub and separate shower. All bedrooms have walk-in closets. Kitchen offers oak white cabinets, gas stove, refrigerator and dishwasher. Washer and dryer also included. Peaked ceilings. Vinyl windows and vinyl siding. Attached 28 x 24 garage. Immediate Occupancy. CS-1600 \$75,000

**Office Hours:** Mon. - Fri. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sat. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. \*Callings by appointment only

**(989) 348-7440**

**2. For Rent**

## BUY A NEW HOUSE WITH YOUR TAX REFUND!\*

There are many loan programs available right now that require -0- or very little money down on a new home purchase for qualified buyers. Contact Liz or Kristen at Mortgage North and find out how your tax refund check may enable you to purchase that home of your dreams!

**Mortgage North**  
307 Huron, Suite B, Grayling, MI 49738 Call 989-348-7632  
\*special conditions/restrictions apply. Contact Mortgage North for more details

**The Grayling Housing Commission** currently has 1 bedroom (senior/disabled) apartments available. Rent is based on 30% of gross adjusted income or \$400 maximum rent. Utilities included or a utility allowance is applied. Please call 348-9314 for more information or stop in at 308 Lawndale.

**City of Grayling**  
"Heart of the North"  
1020 City Boulevard / P.O. Box 549  
Grayling, MI 49738  
Phone (989) 348-2131 Fax (989) 348-6752

## NOTICE OF JOB OPENING

The City of Grayling is seeking qualified applicants for a temporary opening in the Department of Public Works.

The person selected will be doing general labor work in the street department, water & sewer department, parks department, cemetery, city garage, city hall and fire department.

The position will involve driving and operation of various pieces of mechanical equipment including snow plow and dump trucks, backhoe, wheel, sewer cleaning equipment, lawn mowers, tractors, etc.

Applicants must be 21 years of age, eligible to obtain a C.D.L. license w/air brakes and have a good driving record.

Applications are available at the Grayling City Office at 1020 City Boulevard, Grayling.

The City of Grayling is an equal opportunity employer.

Applications must be received by **February 4, 2004.**

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**ANTIQUE OAK** Clawfoot pedestal table and five caned chairs. Very good condition. (989) 821-9137 (7/10/03tf/5)

**MICROWAVE** \$20, free Lazy Boy recliner needs reupholstering. Cathy (989) 348-6708. (-15-22/5)

**JOHN DEERE SNOWBLOWER** 28" cut, electric start, \$1,200. Six forward speeds and two reverse. \$1,200 (989) 348-2172 (-29/5)

**RECLINING LEATHER LOVE SEAT** and chair. Dark green, one year old. \$750 for both. (231) 258-2586 after 6 p.m. (-22-29/5)

**FOR SALE** four snowmobile helmets with face shield \$12 each, two snowmobile suits, one piece black, one mens XL, one ladies 16-18, \$12 each, two pair boots mens 11, ladies 9, \$3 pair, cash. 348-7407. (-29/5)

**DRESSER \$35, DESK \$25**, rocking chair \$75, metal folding chair \$5, word processor \$50. (989) 348-8618. (-29/5)

**1977 SKIDOO 440 & 1979** Skidoo Citation. Gently used 2 weeks/year. Stored inside. Great for ice fishing. \$200 Each. (989) 348-7594. (-29/5)

**2004 SKI PASS** to Crystal mountain unlimited, also includes cross country, \$150. 348-4555 (-29-SSGF/5)

**QUEEN SIZE PILLOW TOP** mattress and box springs new in plastic with Amish made pine log headboard. Cost \$995 will sacrifice for \$285. Call (989) 429-0062. (7/3/03tf/5)

**QUEEN SIZE MATTRESS** set with Amish made pine log headboard and free frame still in plastic, never used. Cost \$800, will sacrifice for \$235. Call (989) 429-0062. (7/3/03tf/5)

**TANNING BED** individually owned not commercially used. Call (989) 619-5274. (-29/5)

**AMISH BUILT** pine log bed. Queen size, beautiful must see. Will sell for \$265. Queen size mattress set, new in plastic with free frame will sacrifice \$150. Call (989) 429-0062. (7/3/03tf/5)

**1997 ARCTIC CAT ZRT 600** triple, \$1,800, OBO. 348-5143. (-29-5/5)

**ADVERTISING DEADLINES:** Regular Display - 1/2 to full page, 5 p.m. Thursday, All others 5 p.m. Friday. Classified Display - 12 noon Monday, Classified by the word - 12 noon Tuesday. These deadlines may change with notice due to holidays or special publication.

**4 X 8 LIGHTED SIGNS** for sale or lease, tables and chairs for lease, trash barrels for sale. Fick & Sons, Grayling. (989) 348-7647 or 1-800-292-9295 (4/24/03tf/7)

**FRED BEAR CAMPFIRE STORIES** Just released audio CD Listen to Fred himself telling his favorite hunting stories. Available at Sledheads of Frederic or call Pete Kocefas (989) 348-8627 (1/8/04tf/7)

#### UNIT MANAGER - FULL TIME

We are looking for an innovative, visionary Unit Manager for our Emergency Department. If you enjoy integrating management skills and clinical expertise, and are Licensed as a Professional Nurse in the State of Michigan with a preferred Bachelor of Science in Nursing, have one year of previous supervisory experience with five years clinical experience you may want to consider this extraordinary opportunity.

Please send resumes to:  
Human Resources  
West Branch Regional Medical Center  
Department 2  
2463 S. M-30  
West Branch, Michigan 48661  
www.wbrmc.com

#### REGISTERED NURSES

**MEDICAL SURGICAL UNIT-FT (NIGHTS)  
OPERATING ROOM-PT (DAYS)**

**NEW GRADUATES WELCOME TO APPLY**

Mercy Hospital Grayling is looking for Registered Nurses for full time positions on our Medical Surgical Unit and a part-time position in the Operating Room. Candidate must be a graduate of an Accredited school of nursing and be currently licensed in the state of Michigan as an RN with 1-2 years experience preferred. New Graduates are welcome to apply for positions in the Medical Surgical Unit. For additional details please contact Human Resources. We offer a competitive wage and benefit program including medical dental, vision, legal, employer-paid life, short/long term disability, and flexible spending accounts and excellent shift differential where applicable. If you are interested in becoming a part of the Mercy family, please Call or send resumes to: Mercy Hospital Human Resources, 1100 Michigan Ave Grayling, Michigan 49738 Phone: 989-348-0528 Fax 989-348-0485 E-mail feidma@trinity-health.org

## DIRECTOR CRAWFORD COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING

Crawford County is seeking a Director for our Commission on Aging. Bachelor's Degree in public or business administration, gerontology, social work or related area is preferred. The applicant should possess two to five years of professional experience in the human services field, gerontology preferred. Supervisory or administrative experience in personnel, budgeting and grant preparation and administration is advantageous. The Director will work closely with the senior citizens of our community and report to a seven member Board.

The ideal candidate will be an individual possessing the previous requirements and have a desire to serve the senior population of our community. The individual will be energetic, enthusiastic, and skilled in administrative duties.

Grayling is located in the center of Northern Michigan. We enjoy an abundance of state land available for recreational purposes with two of the most pristine rivers in North America flowing through our county. Our population has increased over 16% in the last ten years. Much of the increase is attributable to senior citizens.

We offer a competitive salary and benefit package based on qualifications and experience. Interested candidates will send resume to:

Paul Compo, Controller  
200 W. Michigan Ave.  
Grayling, MI 49738  
Fax (989) 348-5743  
pcompo@crawfordco.org

Application deadline is 4:00 pm on Friday, March 5, 2004  
Crawford County is an equal opportunity employer.

**FEMALE ROTTWEILER LOST** in Lovells area. Answers to Roxie. Reward. (989) 348-9204. (-29/7)

**ADOPT** A fun, energetic couple with a love of life and a great desire to share a lifetime of love, security and opportunity with your newborn. Expenses paid, on call anytime. Julie and Bob at 1-888-209-4689. (LR1/29/04/7)

**HELP WANTED HINTS** When placing a Help Wanted Classified, remember to list the job title and duties involved, whether it is full or part time, the name of company or business, mailing address for resume, or street address for walk-in applications. Crawford County Avalanche, 102 Michigan Avenue, Grayling - (989) 348-6811

**GRAY ROCK CAFE** Karaoke every Friday and Saturday night, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. 2123 Industrial Drive, Grayling. (989) 348-5181 (3/13/03tf/8)

**J. DAP CO.** 118 Michigan Ave. has beads and supplies to make beaded jewelry. Stop by and sign up for a class or join us for "Bead Saturday Workshops". Seating is limited so please call (989) 348-4011. (-22-29/8)

**LET JJ'S MOTOR MALL** Get your car, truck or van ready for Winter. Detail includes wash, wax, steam clean carpets and seats, windows, trunk and tires. Appointments necessary. M-72 West (across from Skip's Sport Shop). (989) 348-7710 (1/1/04tf/8)

**INTERNET ACCESS** 56k and high speed dial-up, rate plans from \$13.95 a month, no setup fees, same day activation. Contact NetMichigan.Net 1-866-582-5177 www.NetMichigan.Net (-8-15-22-29/8)

**OLE BARN BREAKFAST BUFFET** - All you can eat. Sat. and Sun, 9 a.m. to noon. (-22-29/8)

**WE PROMISE** you won't miss your high heating bills! For information about a Central Boiler Outdoor Wood Furnace, call (989) 348-7484. (1/22/04tf/8)

**LUNCHEON** Hot and/or Cold Foods. Salad and Dessert included. \$5 per person. Thursday, February 5 from 11:00-1:00 p.m. Take out available. Michelson Memorial United Methodist Church. (-1/8)

**PASTA NIGHT** Every Wednesday night at Skyline. Dinners at \$4.99 and up. Served from 4:30-9:00. (9/25/03tf/8)

**NEW WINTER HOURS** for Skyline. We will be closed on Monday and Tuesday. The restaurant and lounge will be opened Wednesday thru Sunday at noon. (-29-5/8)

**GARAGE & MOVING SALE** February 6 & 7 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. daily Heated garage chairs, end tables, lamps, coffee tables, knick knacks, bedding, dishes, numerous other household items, two shallow well jet pumps, table saw, and tools of all kinds. Free coffee and donuts, first come first serve. A few antiques and much, much more. Too numerous to mention. 1793 South Thendara Road. Five miles East of Grayling, turn North, 3rd house on right. (-29-5/10)

**CAN'T FIT THE CAR IN THE GARAGE?** Sell those extra goodies quick with an ad in Avalanche For Sale Classifieds. (989) 348-6811

#### 11 Automotive

**1998 CHEVY BLAZER 4WD** \$5,500, \$2,000 below blue book. Clean. 115,000 highway miles. Cathy (989) 348-6708 (-22-29/11)

**'97 MERCURY SABLE LS** Nice \$2,500 OBO (989) 344-2036 (-29/11)

**1992 FORD RANGER P.S., P.B., V6.** \$1,200, OBO. 348-1383. (-22-29/11)

**LET JJ'S MOTOR MALL** Get your car, truck or van ready for Winter. Detail includes wash, wax, steam clean carpets and seats, windows, trunk and tires. Appointments necessary. M-72 West (across from Skip's Sport Shop). (989) 348-7710 (1/1/04tf/11)

**99 BUICK PARK AVENUE** Excellent condition, loaded, black, gray interior, moon roof, 119k, \$7,500 OBO. (989) 348-8741. (-22-29/11)

**1995 TOYOTA TACOMA PICK-UP**, 4 x 4 air conditioning, stereo cassette, runs great \$2,500. Call Mike (989) 344-0281. (-29-5/11)

**1996 CHEVROLET S-10** Blazer, four door, four wheel drive, LT, leather, loaded, good miles. \$7,900 (989) 348-8659 (12/25/03tf/11)

**FOR SALE** 2000 Metallic Blue Dodge Intrepid. 75,000 miles. Very good condition. \$8,500 or best offer. Call (989) 348-2694. (-8-15-22-29/11)

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LTC. Norm Schmooch (Ret.)  
348-5132  
No odd jobs too small for Odd Job

## Crossword Answers

|        |        |        |
|--------|--------|--------|
| LAWN   | TAG    | POLO   |
| INRE   | SALSA  | ERIK   |
| SKEW   | ALIASE | LEER   |
| PANS   | TEE    | SATONA |
| CUES   | RULE   |        |
| ADAMS  | ERODES |        |
| CRISP  | MELEE  | SOW    |
| ABAT   | AIRES  | ASIA   |
| LON    | GRANT  | VIALS  |
| REFORM | MARYS  |        |
| ALAI   | GULP   |        |
| CLOUDY | POT    | LAIR   |
| HOWL   | EVERT  | APSO   |
| IGET   | DOYES  | WEIL   |
| PONY   | LED    | ERSE   |

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Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount Paid \_\_\_\_\_

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Crawford, Roscommon, Otsego,  
Kalkaska & Oscoda Counties

**Seasonal Address Changes Add \$4**

**Non-Local.....\$30**

Outside Local Counties

**Foreign.....\$60**

\$2 Senior Citizen discount on all rates.  
Age 60 and older.

**CRAWFORD COUNTY  
AVALANCHE**  
PO Box 490, Grayling, MI 49738 • 989-348-6811

9. Personals

9. Personals

**Happy Birthday**  
**Nate Niederer**  
Love,  
Me & Baby, Mom & Dad, Josh & Danielle

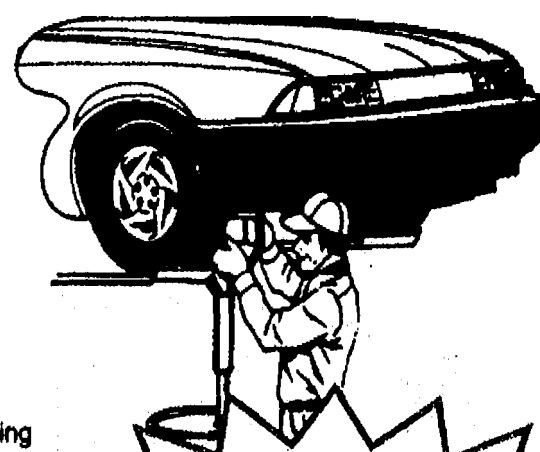
11. Automotive

11. Automotive

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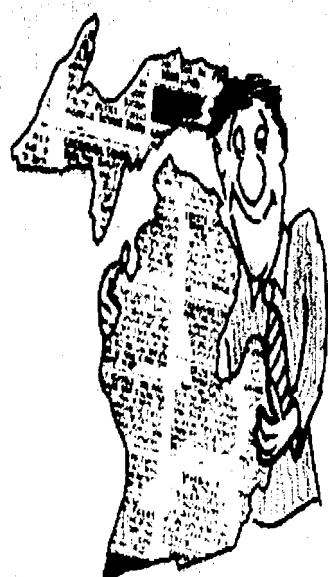
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**SCHEER MOTORS**

US-27 North, Grayling • 989-348-6461

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## MICH-CAN STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED

## FINANCIAL SERVICES

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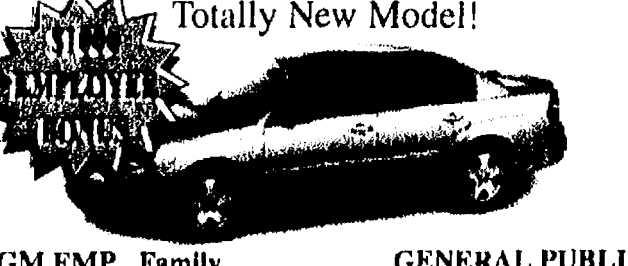
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**\$1000 ADDITIONAL BONUS CASH ON MOST MODELS!! UNTIL 2-2-04!!**

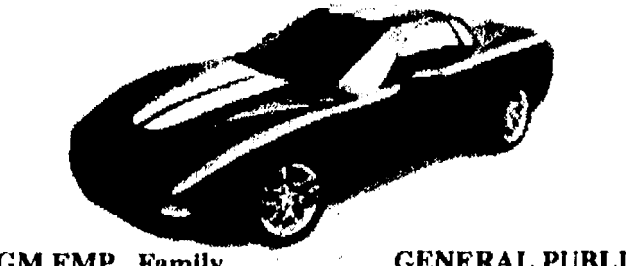
**NEW 2004 CHEVY MALIBU LS**  
Totally New Model!



**GM EMP., Family** **GENERAL PUBLIC**  
\$219 Per Mo. ← LEASE → \$267 Per Mo.  
Zero Down OR  
\$17,075 ← BUY → \$19,181

Awsome new car from the ground up! You have to drive this car to know what a great car it is! Stock # 20345

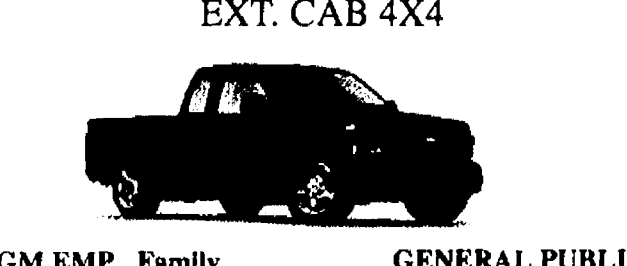
**NEW 2004 CHEVY CORVETTE Z06**



**GM EMP., Family** **GENERAL PUBLIC**  
\$600 Per Mo. ← LEASE → \$713 Per Mo.  
Zero Down OR  
\$42,829 ← BUY → \$47,598

The legendary Z06 hardtop in black with 6 speed manual transmission. In stock now! Stock # 20198

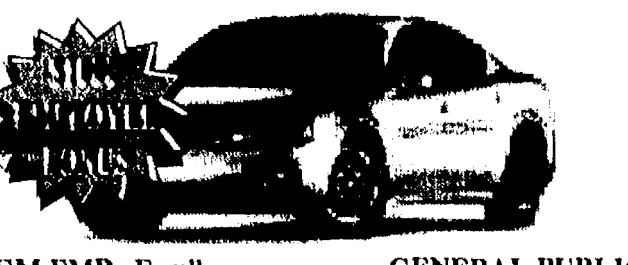
**NEW 2004 CHEVY COLORADO EXT. CAB 4X4**



**GM EMP., Family** **GENERAL PUBLIC**  
\$324 Per Mo. ← LEASE → \$353 Per Mo.  
Zero Down OR  
\$21,739 ← BUY → \$22,988

Whoa! The all new mid-size pickup from Chevrolet with attitude! See it, drive it! It will push your hot button! Stock # 20277


**NEW 2004 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX GT**



**GM EMP., Family** **GENERAL PUBLIC**  
\$214 Per Mo. ← LEASE → \$246 Per Mo.  
Zero Down OR  
\$16,348 ← BUY → \$17,772

Unbelievable! Payments and prices on the all new Grand Prix! What are you waiting for? Stock # 20301


**NEW 2004 CADILLAC SRX-V8 All Wheel Drive**



**GM EMP., Family** **GENERAL PUBLIC**  
\$499 Per Mo. ← LEASE → \$586 Per Mo.  
Zero Down OR  
\$42,923 ← BUY → \$46,790

It's been a long time since the Rock and Roll! But it's back! The all new SRX Luxury Sport Utility! Check this out now! Requires Conquest Closeout Bonus! Stock # 20123

**NEW 2004 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER 4X4**



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\$286 Per Mo. ← LEASE → \$333 Per Mo.  
Zero Down OR  
\$22,602 ← BUY → \$25,287

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**Butler, Chevrolet, Pontiac, Cadillac, Oldsmobile, and GM certified Used Cars! Largest Model Selection in Northern Michigan!**

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| <p><b>2003 CHEVY MALIBU</b><br/>No Money Down! \$199/MO. With approved credit tier. 2-wheel V6 power options, Cruise, Tilt, CD, much more! #179<br/>Was \$13,988 Blowout Price</p> <p><b>2003 BUICK LESABRE CUSTOM</b><br/>Beautiful light bronze color, fully equipped! Only 22,000 miles! #84028<br/>Was \$18,988 Blowout Price</p> <p><b>2003 CHEVY CAVALIER</b><br/>No Money Down! \$179/MO. With approved credit tier. Automatic with air, very nice. A/C, sedan. Equipped! #74898<br/>Was \$12,988 Blowout Price</p> <p><b>2003 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX SE</b><br/>No Money Down! \$229/MO. With approved credit tier. A Grand Prix for a payment like a Taurus! Very nice with low miles! Factory warranty! Check this out! #41713<br/>Was \$16,988 Blowout Price</p> <p><b>2003 PONTIAC VIBE ALL WHEEL DRIVE</b><br/>Loaded! Power Moon roof, 2 disc in dash CD changer, aluminum wheel, every option available! #1522<br/>Was \$20,988 Blowout Price</p> <p><b>2003 OLDS ALERO GL 4 DOOR</b><br/>No Money Down! \$229/MO. With approved credit tier. A new Alero with lots of eye appeal! Lots of options including CD, rear spoiler, and aluminum wheels! Only 15k miles! #5159<br/>Was \$14,988 Blowout Price</p> <p><b>2003 FORD TAURUS</b><br/>No Money Down! \$219/MO. With approved credit tier. Great family car! Fully equipped! What a bargain! #5160<br/>Was \$14,988 Blowout Price</p> <p><b>2003 BUICK RENDEZVOUS</b><br/>One owner trade-in, CX Plus pkg., lots of extras and only 7,000 miles! Like brand new! Was \$25,500! Price now! #20242-1<br/>Was \$22,988 Blowout Price</p> <p><b>2002 DODGE STRATUS SE PLUS</b><br/>No Money Down! \$219/MO. With approved credit tier. V-6, loaded, clean as a whistle! Only 8,000 miles! #20258-1<br/>Was \$14,988 Blowout Price</p> <p><b>2001 OLDSMOBILE AURORA</b><br/>Awesome white diamond with power moonroof! All the goodies! A peach! #5048<br/>Was \$19,988 Blowout Price</p> <p><b>2001 PONTIAC BONNEVILLE SSEi</b><br/>Personal! Leather, power moonroof, chrome wheels, much more! Only 27,000 miles! #2069 Was \$24,988 Blowout Price</p> <p><b>2001 PONTIAC GRAND AM GT</b><br/>V8 with all, auto, lots of power options, power sunroof, chrome wheels, lots more! Only 35,000 miles<br/>#100 Was \$15,988 Blowout Price</p> | <p><b>2000 CHEVY PRIZM</b><br/>Auto, air, low miles! #5179<br/>Was \$9,488 Blowout Price</p> <p><b>1999 CHRYSLER SEBRING CONVERTIBLE</b> SPECIAL CAR OF THE WEEK<br/>Really Sharp &amp; Clean! Looks Brand New!<br/>#5078-1 Was \$13,988 Blowout Price</p> <p><b>1999 BUICK LESABRE</b><br/>Clean locally owned car!<br/>#2018-1 Was \$9,988 Blowout Price</p> <p><b>1999 BUICK CENTURY</b><br/>Limited, leather! Very clean, good miles! #2008-1<br/>Was \$7,988 Blowout Price</p> <p><b>1999 FORD TAURUS SE</b><br/>Very clean, nice driving car! Has some miles, but priced right!<br/>#18750-2 Was \$4,488 Blowout Price</p> <p><b>1999 OLDSMOBILE ALERO</b><br/>2 door coupe - very clean V6, GL, pkg. Auto, loc's great, runs great!<br/>#20033-2 Was \$7,488 Blowout Price</p> <p><b>1998 PONTIAC SUNFIRE</b><br/>Cute little red 2 door coupe, auto, air, very nice! #5183-1<br/>Was \$5,988 Blowout Price</p> <p><b>1998 BUICK LESABRE</b><br/>Very nice, locally owned car. Has a few miles but these seem to last forever!<br/>Great gas mileage, tool! #20281-1<br/>Was \$7,988 Blowout Price</p> <p><b>1996 FORD TAURUS</b><br/>Clean, no rust! Runs, drives great! #5131-1<br/>Was \$2,988 Blowout Price</p> <p><b>1995 CADILLAC DEVILLE</b><br/>Really nice, clean car. Has a few miles, but it's a Cadillac!<br/>#5093 Was \$8,988 Blowout Price</p> | <p><b>2002 CHEVY SILVERADO EXT. CAB</b><br/>2-wheel drive, V8, LS, lots of equipment! Popular "pepper" color!<br/>#2006-1 Was \$21,988 Blowout Price</p> <p><b>2002 GMC SONOMA</b><br/>Ext. Cab 4x4, low miles! Nice! #5790<br/>Was \$18,988 Blowout Price</p> <p><b>2001 CHEVY S10 EXT CAB</b><br/>2-wheel drive, auto, air, nice truck! Low miles! #5171<br/>Was \$13,988 Blowout Price</p> <p><b>2001 CHEVY TAHOE LT 4X4</b><br/>Leather, Power Sunroof, loaded! Brand new tires! #5166<br/>Was \$23,988 Blowout Price</p> <p><b>2001 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE</b><br/>Laredo, Leather, CD, Power Sunroof. Very sharp! #20358-1<br/>Was \$18,988 Blowout Price</p> <p><b>2001 CHEVY SILVERADO EXT. CAB 4X4</b><br/>2-71, loaded 4x4 with top of the line leather seats, power sunroof, all the toys!<br/>Over \$40,000 brand new! #20125-1<br/>Was \$14,988 Blowout Price</p> <p><b>2001 CHEVY SILVERADO EXT. CAB 4X4</b><br/>2-71, loaded 4x4 with top of the line leather seats, power sunroof, all the toys!<br/>Over \$40,000 brand new! #20125-1<br/>Was \$22,988 Blowout Price</p> <p><b>2001 PONTIAC MONTANA</b><br/>Great for the family, nice! GM Certified! #9878<br/>Was \$14,988 Blowout Price</p> <p><b>2001 CHEVY VENTURE</b><br/>Extended! Low miles! Holiday shopping van! #36684<br/>Was \$15,988 Blowout Price</p> <p><b>2001 OLDSMOBILE SILHOUETTE GL</b><br/>Extended, Power Sliding Door, rear air, full power! #13297<br/>Was \$14,988 Blowout Price</p> <p><b>2000 FORD EXPEDITION 4X4</b><br/>XLT, loaded! Leather, power sunroof, 3rd seat, trailering. Very sharp! #20210-1<br/>Was \$21,988 Blowout Price</p> <p><b>2000 CHEVY SILVERADO EXT CAB 4X4</b><br/>Nice truck, priced right! #20145-1<br/>Was \$18,988 Blowout Price</p> <p><b>1998 FORD EXPEDITION 4X4 XLT</b><br/>3 Seater, low miles! Really clean and nice! #20122-1<br/>Was \$14,988 Blowout Price</p> |
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BUY FOR \$199/MO. LEASE FOR \$199/MO. Deal now or at a great price! #19980-1  
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SE, 4 DR, nice car! #20300-1  
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3 seats! LT model with lots of extras and only 17,000 miles! #19978-1  
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**2003 CHEVY VENTURE EXTENDED**  
LS model, beautiful van! Almost \$30,000 brand new! #5136  
Was \$21,988 Blowout Price

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**2002 CHEVY AVALANCHE 2-71 4X4**  
Almost 20,000 less than new! Loaded with leather, power sunroof! #19980-1  
Was \$25,988 Blowout Price

**2002 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LAREDO**  
6 cyl., power seat, CD, lots of extras! Only 25,000 miles! #5089  
Was \$22,988 Blowout Price

**2002 CHEVY SILVERADO EXT. CAB 4X4**  
2-71, loaded! Popular power color. \$35,000 brand new! #20228-1  
Was \$24,988 Blowout Price

**1998 FORD WINDSTAR**  
Nice Van for a lot of money!  
#19912-1 Was \$7,988 Blowout Price

**1997 JEEP WRANGLER**  
Soft top, really sharp! Only 65,000 miles!  
#5109 Was \$10,988 Blowout Price

**1999 CHEVROLET VENTURE EXTENDED**  
LS, very clean and nice choice! The bargain! #20305-1  
Was \$4,988 Blowout Price

**1993 CHEVY CONVERSION VAN**  
Nice van for the money. Miles low for a 93! #5189  
Was \$2,988 Blowout Price

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